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Chief Executives Board for Coordination

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Report of the High-level Committee on Programmes on its twenty-seventh session

(Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, 17 and 18 March 2014)

I. Introduction

1. The High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) held its twenty-seventh session at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in Santiago, on 17 and 18 March 2014. The agenda of the meeting and the list of participants are contained in annexes II and III, respectively, to the present report.

2. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Alicia Bárcena, welcomed the Committee, noting that it had been 10 years since the Committee had met at the headquarters of a regional commission. Indeed, the session, and the meeting that the Committee would be conducting with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions, were very timely in the light of discussions related to the paradigm shift from a transactional to a universal development agenda for the post-2015 period. The success of this process was very much contingent upon the structuring of a development agenda around the notions of inclusion, equality and intergenerational responsibility. The Executive Secretary presented an overview of the far-reaching economic and social changes that had taken place in the recent, post-crisis years in the Latin American and Caribbean region, which were pertinent to other regions and could be instructive in the work under way to reinforce space for multilateralism and build a universal agenda with equality at its centre. The United Nations system had an important contribution to make in analysing and addressing existing contradictions and bringing convergence to emerging development issues. The regional dimension of development needed to be taken into account in that regard.

3. The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the Executive Secretary for her statement and for having generously hosted the session.

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II. Agenda item 1: Post-2015 development agenda

4. The Committee recalled that it had agreed to support and complement the preparatory process for a post-2015 development agenda by assisting CEB in fostering system-wide coherence and addressing, in an integrated manner, challenges and opportunities faced by the United Nations system in defining its own role and contribution in a changed development policy environment. In that context, the Committee, at its previous session, had prepared an issue paper to provide thought leadership and critical analysis for further reflection by CEB on the institutional and policy implications of a transformative and universal post-2015 development agenda with sustainable development at its core. Key among the challenges identified was the need for the coherent integration of policies across the three dimensions of sustainable development in the broad context of the United Nations mandate of peace and security, development, human rights and the rule of law.

5. At its November 2013 retreat, CEB subsequently identified a number of key issues, including universality, means of implementation and governance, with respect to which a common understanding and clarity and unity of stance across the United Nations system would be essential in order to guarantee the continued relevance of the system in development cooperation and to enhance its effectiveness. The Board concluded that if it was to remain effective, the United Nations system would need to converge around the conceptual, procedural and operational challenges to deliver on the future sustainable development agenda. In that context, CEB requested the Committee, as a joint contribution with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), to devise a set of options on how best the United Nations system could support Member States as the international community strived to make the transition to a new, universal development agenda centred on sustainable development for the Board's consideration at its first regular session of 2014. A contribution by the High-level Committee on Management was foreseen for later in the process.

6. In opening the discussion on this item, the Chair noted the Committee's unique role in supporting CEB in the discharge of its functions by reflecting on the fitness for purpose of the United Nations system in the context of a rapidly changing external environment. The United Nations system was confronted with an important process that, once completed, had the potential to fundamentally shift development policy and practices over the next two decades. In particular, the Committee had an important contribution to make to assist CEB in articulating and advocating a shared understanding of the key tenets and fundamental principles of the post-2015 development agenda.

7. To that end, the Committee had before it for its review: (a) a chapeau text that had been jointly prepared with UNDG and also included inputs from the High-level Committee on Management; and (b) four discussion papers, each addressing one critical element of the post-2015 development agenda. The papers, which had been prepared by individual Committee members, were focused on universality, integration, equality and human rights. The Chair thanked the Vice-Chair and the members of the small drafting team for their efforts in preparing for the Committee's discussion on this item.

8. In providing an overview of the intergovernmental processes related to the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Thomas Gass, noted that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals had entered a decisive phase in its work. Under the leadership of the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, and on the basis of a paper outlining 19 possible focus areas for the future development agenda, the Group was engaged in a process of reducing the number of issue areas to a manageable set of sustainable development goals and targets and demonstrating the interlinkages among issue areas. The work of the Group was expected to be completed by September 2014.

9. The Assistant Secretary-General added that a universal and integrated agenda would have profound implications for the United Nations system, which needed to gain clarity on how it would support the implementation of such an agenda in both developing and developed countries. Integration and coordination were closely interconnected, and required the United Nations system to deepen its collaborative efforts. Member States increasingly were enquiring about institutional aspects of the post-2015 development agenda and the role of the United Nations system in helping countries to implement it. In that context, the work initiated by CEB on fitness for purpose was highly relevant.

10. The Assistant Secretary-General also noted the importance of keeping Member States informed of the ongoing reflections of the United Nations system. The operational activities segment of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development provided important opportunities in that regard.

11. In addition, the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing was currently preparing a report proposing options for an effective sustainable development financing strategy. The Committee had organized its work in three clusters, focusing on the assessment of financial needs, the mobilization and use of resources, and institutional arrangements. The need for collaboration and coordination between the Committee and the Working Group was recognized by their respective Co-Chairs and members. The Committee was expected to present its report to the General Assembly in September 2014.

12. In her intervention, the Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, Amina J. Mohammed, highlighted the importance of bringing to CEB a joint plan that reflected clarity of stance and a sense of unity of purpose within the United Nations system for a focused and committed approach to the post-2015 development agenda. Indeed, the system needed to demonstrate its readiness to build on its diversity and specialization and lead the transformation to the new development agenda. In that regard, she stressed the importance of the three pillars of CEB aligning their work and delivering as one. She emphasized that one important element of the debate on fitness for purpose was the issue of the data revolution. The United Nations system had a role to play in helping Member States to set the baseline for the post-2015 development agenda.

13. The Special Adviser also noted that one of the main challenges to be overcome was the prevailing "globalization of indifference". Accordingly, the notion of fitness for purpose extended beyond the United Nations system. While the post-2015 development agenda was first and foremost a development-focused framework, it

also needed to support related agendas, including those for peace and security and human rights. She acknowledged the difficulty of putting into place an accountability framework for an agreement that would ultimately not be legally binding.

14. The Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Elliot Harris, introduced the discussion paper on integration. He noted that the achievement of sustainable development required a coherent approach to policy that treated each of its three pillars as an integral part of the whole. Integration was, thus an indispensable component of the post-2015 development agenda and represented a significant departure from current practice, which considered development dimensions to be distinct silos. That approach had been brought about by a system of decentralized institutional structures and processes. While the approach had certain strengths, allowing for specialization within and among institutions and contributing to the comparative advantage of the United Nations system, it also made the implementation of policies across institutional boundaries less effective than desirable, and often blurred lines of accountability.

15. The Director stressed that an integrated approach was needed that would recognize the interlinkages among and between policies and sectors and would cut across the three dimensions of the work of the United Nations system in areas including norms and standard-setting, policy formulation, and implementation at the operational level. Given the joint efforts required, such an approach had serious implications for the governance, planning and funding structures of United Nations system organizations.

16. In presenting the discussion paper on universality, the Director of the New York Office of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Jane Stewart, thanked the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for its preparation. She noted that global norms created under the aegis of the United Nations were inherently universal in nature and application. The challenge was the actual enforcement of those norms by a global governance system based on the principle of sovereignty and characterized by large asymmetries in power and influence. As the world became increasingly interdependent and multipolar, it was faced with a variety of global issues, such as climate change, international trade and the international financial system, which required the design of new systems of mutual global accountability. A new governance model was needed that helped Governments to keep the outside world in mind when formulating national policy and that included a measure of fairness applied internationally. International cooperation was key to such an approach; the United Nations system, working together and across sectors, had a role to play in identifying win-win solutions, providing evidence and promoting policy coherence to help enforce the normative agenda at the national level.

17. The Chief of the Development and Economic and Social Issues Branch of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Craig Mokhiber, provided an overview of the discussion paper on human rights. He stated that the integration of human rights had emerged as an essential element in the post-2015 development agenda. A broad range of stakeholders, including the United Nations system, Member States, civil society organizations and academia, had called for a post-2015 framework that integrated human rights across the goals, targets,

indicators and accountability frameworks for the new sustainable development goals. Indeed, a human-rights-based approach to development cut across and integrated multiple dimensions of human progress. For example, poverty eradication, in a human-rights-sensitive form, addressed not only income considerations, but also the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary to realize an adequate standard of living and other fundamental human rights.

18. The United Nations system had already made significant progress in becoming fit for purpose in supporting a human-rights-based approach to sustainable development. It had done so by implementing a range of tools to ensure the integration of human rights into its operations. Those tools included the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, Resident Coordinator job descriptions and the Secretary-General's "Rights up front" initiative. The challenge for the United Nations system now was to further advance its fitness for purpose by consolidating those capacities and supplementing them with robust, rights-based indicators and methodologies for the collection and analysis of relevant, disaggregated data. In addition, a more systematic interface was needed between the United Nations development system and the United Nations human rights system. The application of human-rights-based approaches on the ground, built on the principles of participation, accountability, non-discrimination and empowerment, was essential for an inclusive development model.

19. In presenting the paper on equality, the Senior Adviser on United Nations and Intergovernmental Affairs of UNICEF, Mandeep O'Brien, conveyed five key messages: (a) equality was central to the three pillars of sustainable development and integrated the social, economic and environmental; (b) as inequality affected not only those who were most marginalized, but rather all societies and all people, equality converged with the principle of universality; (c) although inequality was entrenched in middle-income countries, which were performing well at an aggregate level, disaggregated data had exposed the fact that gains were unevenly distributed and disparities were rampant; (d) because it was important to focus not only on the symptoms of inequality, but also on their root causes and structural drivers, including gender inequality and the denial of the rights of women and girls as a primary driver, equality converged with the principle of human rights; and (e) concerted action was needed at all levels to address inequalities in terms of making sure that policies, programmes and legislative frameworks were equity-focused and rights-based, investing in national capacity and robust partnerships for promoting equality, and investing in disaggregated data for evidence-based planning as well as the real-time monitoring of deprivations and the identification of specific measures to address inequalities.

20. The Vice-Chair of the Committee, Jan Beagle, highlighted the work of the Committee as it related to fitness for purpose. She noted that the Committee's strategic plan included several priorities that were highly relevant to the discussion, including ongoing work on attracting and retaining talent, redesigning and innovating business models, delivering as one, strengthening risk management and improving the use of data to deepen the evidence base to drive change, and measuring and communicating results. She added that the current International Civil Service Commission compensation review provided a strategic opportunity for the United Nations system to effect change, to build on the system's comparative advantages of specialization to advance multisectoral approaches and to create a leadership and management culture that valued performance and collaborative action.

21. The Vice-Chair of the Committee, Gunilla Olsson, provided an overview of the contribution of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) to the fitness-for-purpose debate, noting that at its previous session, CEB had tasked UNDG with focusing on questions relating to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. UNDG had already provided input to the plan, now before the Committee for review, and a forthcoming retreat of the Assistant Secretary-General Group would discuss the contribution of UNDG in greater detail. She suggested that the outcome of the Committee's discussion be shared with UNDG as an input to its deliberations and to ensure complementarity in the work of the two bodies.

22. In opening the discussion, the Chair invited Committee members to reflect on the priority areas identified and to give thought to how best to inform and structure the CEB dialogue on fitness for purpose. Members were also invited to share their views on a possible CEB statement on the post-2015 development agenda that would serve as a clarion call. In its subsequent discussion, the Committee focused on the nature and content of the collective action that CEB needed to consider with regard to the United Nations system's fitness for purpose in supporting Member States in the preparation and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. As a starting point, it was clear that the Board would not be entering into the debate on specific goals and targets, but rather would support Member States in the articulation of a development vision grounded in the core normative principles of the United Nations system. At the same time, the United Nations system needed to reflect on its own organizational, governance and funding structures to ensure that it was able to respond quickly and flexibly to the realities of a changing world and evolving funding modalities. In so doing, the system needed to be a driver of change. The three pillars of CEB — the High-level Committee on Programmes, the High-level Committee on Management and UNDG — had an important role to play in this regard.

23. With that in mind, the Committee considered the interlinkages of global policy and norm-setting and national policy implementation and operationalization, as well as the role of the United Nations system in supporting Member States in the integration of the various dimensions and sectors involved. As a decentralized system of highly specialized entities, the United Nations system had a wide range of services to offer to Member States. However, the system needed to become more effective in its support for Member States by systematically harnessing its synergies and complementarities to ensure coordinated and coherent action. In that context, Committee members pointed to specific joint initiatives with potential to improve delivering as one, including a collective results framework, more joint funding and increased coordination in the areas of policy, operations and the collection and sharing of data. A pragmatic approach that was focused on the delivery of solutions by the United Nations system was emphasized.

24. The Committee noted, in that context, the need for a multisectoral approach to policy formulation and programme implementation. Such an approach would build on the specialized expertise of the system. Relevant organizations would pool their knowledge and experience to support country efforts in a more comprehensive and holistic manner and demonstrate critical linkages among issues and sectors. For example, work on food security could be enhanced through technical expertise with respect to climate change and natural disasters and their linkages to poverty and inequality. Hence, in order to effectively support all countries in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, the United Nations system needed to better

integrate its own normative, technical and operational functions. Against the background of a universal agenda, an important challenge was how best to support countries in which United Nations country teams were absent. This was seen as an area in which more work needed to be done by CEB and its pillars.

25. The United Nations system was faced with a set of development challenges that needed to be addressed in innovative ways. Those challenges included poverty in middle- or high-income countries, inequality and its structural causes, the integration of the peace and security, humanitarian and development agendas, global governance concerns and the future funding of global and regional public goods. Committee members observed that the system needed to adapt to a changing external environment by evolving from "delivering things to delivering thinking". The linkages among the local, national, regional and international levels of policymaking needed to be strengthened in the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda. The regional commissions had an important role to play in bridging the gap between the country level and the global level. Likewise, civil society and the private sector were important partners in contributing to the new development paradigm. The United Nations system, through the United Nations country teams, had already been instrumental in drawing attention to the aspirations and hopes of ordinary people by organizing two rounds of extensive country-level consultations. It needed to continue to fulfil its role as mediator and advocate by giving voice to the voiceless and standing steadfast behind universally agreed norms and standards. Committee members also pointed to the role of the United Nations system in improving the situation concerning data and statistics, an area critical to the establishment of a robust accountability and reporting framework for the future development agenda.

26. Committee members expressed support for an approach on the part of CEB that would take forward the issues of universality, integration, inequality, human rights and the data revolution as key elements of the post-2015 development agenda. A collaborative approach on the part of the Committee, with UNDG and the High-level Committee on Management, was critical in ensuring a consistent and shared understanding of these elements on the part of the United Nations system. Such an approach would also contribute to the operational alignment and normative anchoring of global, regional and country-level efforts.

27. The proposed approach would also help in addressing the "price of indifference" for those living in protracted crises, largely untouched by development assistance, as well as for those for whom development gains had been set back decades as a result of natural disasters. The importance of inclusion and equality in that context could not be overstated.

28. The joint plan should boldly examine existing inequities at the root of failures in the provision of global public goods. Members also concurred with the proposal that, with the additional work to be done by UNDG and the Committee, CEB should look at these issues carefully from the perspectives of operational effectiveness, organizational structures/institutions, funding, accountability and governance in order to advance the fitness for purpose of the United Nations system against the background of an integrated and universal development agenda. The Committee also supported the proposal that CEB consider issuing a joint statement as a clarion call for the achievement of clarity and unity of stance on the key elements of the post-2015 development agenda.

29. The Committee agreed that, under the leadership of its Vice-Chair, the four papers, in addition to a fifth on the data revolution, would be refashioned, taking into account the discussion under this item and written comments, and would be shared with both UNDG and the High-level Committee on Management for consideration at their upcoming sessions. While the High-level Committee on Programmes would focus on the "what", the other pillars would delve deeper into the "how". The plan would be a joint contribution of all three pillars, as a basis for discussion by CEB at its first regular session of 2014. The Committee also suggested that CEB might wish to set forth a time frame for a joint statement as a clarion call regarding the post-2015 development agenda at its second regular session of 2014.

III. Agenda item 2: Climate change

30. The Committee recalled that the mandate of its Working Group on Climate Change was to be renewed at its current session. It also recalled that, at its twenty-sixth session, in October 2013, it had requested the Working Group to present a list of concrete deliverables that would catalyse the United Nations system's support for Member States in their efforts to reach a legally binding climate agreement in 2015 and to promote climate action on the ground. In response, the Working Group had developed a draft work programme for the biennium 2014-2015 for the Committee's review and approval (see annex IV).

31. Introducing the proposed 2014-2015 work programme, the Chair of the Working Group, Elena Manaenkova, Assistant Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, stressed the urgency of climate action and the critical role of the United Nations system in supporting Member States through coordinated action. In recent years, the Working Group had contributed significantly to increased coherence and collaboration among United Nations organizations, including by facilitating joint initiatives and coordinating the engagement of the United Nations system at the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Building on those achievements, the Group was now taking a more strategic approach to maximize the United Nations system's support for Member States in addressing the climate challenge.

32. The 2014-2015 work programme, the Chair of the Working Group explained, sought to effectively mobilize and raise awareness about the collective climate-related knowledge and services offered by the United Nations system in order to generate momentum for an ambitious climate agreement and to foster sustained climate action on the ground. She outlined the following main elements of the work programme: (a) strengthening joint communication to generate support for climate action; (b) improving access to the United Nations system's climate-related knowledge and expertise; (c) offering the United Nations system's technical expertise to inform the formulation of climate-sensitive sustainable development goals; (d) identifying emerging issues that called for joint initiatives; and (e) ensuring fitness for purpose, which entailed the drafting of terms of reference for the group and, at a later stage, the development of a proposal for a post-2015 climate change strategy for the United Nations system.

33. In the subsequent discussion, Committee members acknowledged with appreciation the work of the Working Group and thanked Ms. Manaenkova for her

leadership. The Committee also supported the extension of the Group's mandate and endorsed the proposed work programme. In addition to expressing their interest in contributing to the implementation of the work programme, several members provided details on initiatives that addressed the linkages between climate change and their respective areas of work, including cities, migrants, technology transfer and health.

34. Members stressed the importance of joint messaging on climate change at this critical moment in the negotiations, as well as the need for a coherent approach on climate change in the context of sustainable development, in view of the interconnectedness of the two areas. Some members called for more explicit advocacy of emission reductions given the severe impacts of accelerated climate change. In that context, more attention to the issue of fuel subsidies was called for. It was also suggested that the work and messaging of the Working Group should make clear reference to the overarching principles guiding the United Nations system's work, including human rights and gender equality.

35. With regard to joint programming, the Committee affirmed the need for close coordination with UNDG. In that regard, it was noted that terms of reference for the Group would offer an opportunity to speak to its complementarity with relevant inter-agency mechanisms. Committee members stressed, in that context, the importance of retaining the Working Group's institutional and operational flexibility and dynamic. Members also suggested a prioritization of the deliverables proposed in the work programme. The development of suggestions for a system-wide strategy on climate change and a review of the CEB climate change action framework towards the end of 2015, guided by and aligned with the emerging post-2015 sustainable development agenda, were welcomed.

36. The Committee endorsed the 2014-2015 work programme of its Working Group on Climate Change (see annex IV), extended the Group's mandate for two years and requested the Group to draft terms of reference for review by the Committee at its next session.

IV. Agenda item 3: Small island developing States

37. The Vice-Chair invited the Committee to consider how it might help to strengthen coherence in United Nations system support for small island developing States as part of the preparations for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia, from 1 to 4 September 2014. On past occasions, joint statements of CEB to United Nations conferences had captured the collective vision of the system with respect to a particular issue and sent a strong signal of support to the international community. She stressed that the Conference also presented a larger opportunity for the United Nations system to commit to partnering more effectively with small island developing States and other stakeholders to address their unique and urgent needs. It was also recalled that at its second regular session of 2013, CEB had decided to hold a high-level side event at the Conference. The Vice-Chair expressed appreciation to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for taking the lead in producing the draft CEB statement before the Committee and invited the representative to introduce the background note.

38. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs provided a short update on preparations for the Conference and introduced the draft statement. The emphasis of the Conference was on genuine and durable partnerships, and the Conference was an important means for small island developing States to identify their priorities for the post-2015 development agenda. Many United Nations system organizations had shared information on existing or planned multi-stakeholder partnerships for small island developing States, and the Department hoped that more inputs would be forthcoming. The Department would soon be sharing more guidance from the Conference bureau on the six partnership dialogues to be held at the Conference. Guidelines for side events were available on the Conference website, and the deadline for applications was 31 May. The Assistant Secretary-General called the Committee's attention to the draft joint statement of the United Nations system, explaining that consultations on it had been undertaken with the expanded Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs; additional comments submitted in writing to the Department were encouraged. He looked forward to the Committee's decision as to whether the statement could be referred onward to CEB.

39. Simona Petrova of the CEB secretariat briefed the Committee on the status of the preparations for the high-level CEB event on small island developing States to be held on the afternoon of Monday, 1 September. The panel would be chaired by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and moderated by the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), with the participation of a number of executive heads. Entities that had not yet informed the secretariat of their principals' participation were invited to do so. Still in the early stages of planning, the event was envisaged to provide a United Nations system perspective on support for small island developing States that would complement the CEB statement. A specific storyline for the side event would be developed on the basis of the confirmation of executive heads' participation.

40. Members expressed support for the statement, while making a number of proposals aimed at sharpening the draft. It was recommended that the statement be more forceful in pledging greater and improved coordination and coherence among United Nations system entities in support of small island developing States. A number of suggestions were made aimed at the strengthening or addition of specific issues concerning small island developing States, including: trade; treatment in international financial institutions; economic vulnerability and resilience; human security; the green economy; sustainable production and consumption; and violence against women and children. It was also suggested that the importance of disaggregated data for the monitoring of inequalities and disparities be highlighted in the statement and that the reference to national innovation be expanded to include regional innovation. In addition, it was suggested that the draft statement be reviewed against the recently issued zero draft of the Conference outcome document.

41. In their interventions, several members of the Committee cited areas in which the United Nations system could strengthen its support for small island developing States, including: taking a more coherent approach to working with small island developing States, for example, undertaking activities together and coordinating interaction with relevant government ministries; addressing the challenges faced by small island developing States graduating from the least developed country category, which were no longer entitled to special treatment; being more sensitive to

the realities of middle-income small island developing States; responding to the plea of small island developing States for a genuine and durable partnership for sustainable development; and ensuring that the quality, rather than the quantity, of the partnerships launched or renewed at the Conference was paramount.

42. Some members highlighted their individual contributions to the Conference. UNDP was supporting the host country of Samoa through the United Nations country team on the ground, including by providing surge capacity to the Programme's Samoa office as it responded to host country requests for support with respect to all aspects of the Conference. UNWTO would produce a publication on small island developing States focusing on the enhancement of resilience and economic diversification beyond tourism. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) would hold an event in advance of the Conference on information and communications technology partnerships to drive the sustainable implementation of the pillars of development of small island developing States. ITU and the United Nations Capital Development Fund were also planning to hold a side event at the Conference that would be focused on the deployment of resilient broadband-based ICT networks. In addition, the International Monetary Fund expected to host a side event.

43. The Committee agreed that the joint United Nations system statement to the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States would be finalized in the light of its discussion and any additional written comments received. The text would then be submitted to CEB for endorsement at its first regular session of 2014 (see annex V).

V. Agenda item 4: A new United Nations urban agenda

44. In the light of ongoing consultations on the post-2015 development agenda and preparations for the upcoming third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), to be held in 2016, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) introduced a new agenda item on the role of urbanization in sustainable development. In so doing, it invited the Committee to consider developing a framework for system-wide coordination and coherence on the subject. The Chair welcomed the consideration of this topic and observed that Habitat III would be the first United Nations international conference to be held following the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, presenting an opportunity for the Committee to consider a system-wide approach to sustainable urban development. He stressed that it was important that the Committee understand what coordination efforts were already under way in the area and set clear expectations for the proposed working group on a new United Nations urban agenda.

45. Calling attention to the issues note before the Committee, the Principal Adviser on Policy and Strategic Planning of the Office of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Naison Mutizwa-Mangiza, introduced the proposal for an inclusive and coherent process for the definition of a new United Nations urban agenda, taking advantage of the Habitat III preparatory process. He established the case for action, citing the large populations and fast growth rates of cities, particularly in developing countries. He stressed that challenges in urban centres were growing in scale and complexity and, if not addressed, could hamper the abilities of local authorities to

drive national development and to help build economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies. Poverty reduction could not be achieved without addressing the basic needs of poor urban dwellers, including those living in slums. Indeed, the importance of sustainable cities and human settlements had been recognized by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals through its inclusion among the 19 focus areas being considered.

46. The Principal Adviser referred to General Assembly resolution 67/216, in which the Assembly encouraged effective contributions from and the active participation of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the Habitat III preparatory process and at the conference itself. Observing that most United Nations system entities were involved in sustainable urbanization in some form, in accordance with their particular mandates, he proposed that the United Nations system collaborate to produce an input to the Conference through an ad hoc, time-bound working group.

47. In that context, the working group was proposed to: (a) develop a coherent United Nations system input to Habitat III in the form of a policy paper on "Urbanization and sustainable development: towards a new United Nations urban agenda"; (b) ensure policy coherence through a system-wide framework for cooperation on the implementation of the sustainable urbanization dimensions of the post-2015 development agenda derived from the aforementioned policy paper; and (c) showcase the work of the United Nations system on urban issues.

48. With respect to existing efforts aimed at inter-agency coordination in the area of sustainable urbanization, the Principal Adviser explained that an inter-agency coordinating committee for Habitat III had been formed by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat in July 2013 to serve as a platform for the sharing of information and ideas and the contribution of resources in preparation for the conference. That committee, however, was not considering substantive policy issues.

49. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee expressed strong support for the proposal of UN-Habitat. Many members signalled their interest in contributing to the working group, while highlighting current activities related to sustainable urbanization. It was observed that the proposal provided a good opportunity to take stock of existing programmatic and policy interventions within the system. Given the vulnerability of cities to disaster, it was suggested that the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction might also be invited to participate in the working group. Several members urged that more thought be given to the respective roles of the existing inter-agency coordinating committee and the proposed working group. The possibility of merging the two was raised. On that point, Ms. Yamina Djacta of the UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office clarified that the inter-agency coordinating committee responded to the requests of Member States for the mobilization of expertise throughout the United Nations system in support of Habitat III, whereas the proposed working group would focus on policy coherence. Nevertheless, the complementarity of the two could be further considered.

50. Several members supported reconsidering the timing of the consideration of the policy recommendations made by CEB and the subsequent submission to the Habitat III Preparatory Committee in view of the timeline for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, which would necessarily inform both the United Nations system input to the Preparatory Committee, and Member State negotiations on the outcome of the conference.

51. Members offered proposals for the incorporation of additional themes into the scope of the working group. It was suggested that human rights be better reflected, taking into consideration such issues as the right to adequate and affordable housing, and incorporating a stronger gender perspective, for example, highlighting personal security issues. Some members strongly supported addressing rural-urban linkages. The importance of discussing livelihoods in the context of the urban agenda was also stressed, and the relevance of tourism as it related to cities was highlighted. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) looked forward to contributing to the working group in terms of the mainstreaming of gender as one of the key dimensions of sustainable urbanization. The working group was urged to consider the issue of local technical capacity to manage infrastructure in terms of disaster preparedness and sustainability, and suggested that a pilot project might be useful to inform policy formulation. The Principal Adviser thanked members for their ideas, stating that the proposal had not been intended to be exhaustive with respect to all substantive areas to be covered by the working group. He expressed the hope that, with the contribution of the expertise of participating entities, the policy paper would be comprehensive.

52. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs reminded the Committee that the 2014 integration segment of the Economic and Social Council would be focused on sustainable urbanization and that the heads of United Nations system entities had been invited to participate. A question was raised as to whether a report of the Secretary-General would be prepared for Habitat III and, if so, whether the working group would provide input to it. The Principal Adviser noted the possibility of leveraging the working group's efforts in that context.

53. Recognizing the Committee members' universal endorsement of proceeding with the UN-Habitat proposal, the Chair urged the working group to bring to CEB an understanding of the key drivers of the new urban agenda that would emerge in the post-2015 discussions and the preparation process for Habitat III (with the aim of linking the two processes) and to articulate strategic drivers and objectives that would define what United Nations system entities did individually and collectively in relation to sustainable urbanization. The output — in the form of a framing paper presenting a strategic vision of the United Nations system, not the agenda itself — should reinforce the five key elements discussed in the context of the Committee's earlier discussion on fitness for purpose.

54. Further to the discussion on timing, the Chair concluded that the group should work on the basis of a two-step process, with an intermediate product developed for feedback at the Board's second regular session of 2014 that would be framed in anticipation of the post-2015 outcome, and with the final product to be presented to CEB at its second regular session of 2015, by which time the United Nations system should have a clear understanding of the expectations of Member States with regard to the urban agenda. He identified the need to establish a core team to lead the process, as well as a process for consultation and interaction among organizations.

55. The Committee welcomed the proposal of UN-Habitat and decided to establish an ad hoc time-bound working group on a new United Nations urban agenda to present a policy paper on "Urbanization and sustainable development: towards a new United Nations urban agenda" at the Board's second regular session of 2015, with a first draft to be delivered at the Board's second regular session of 2014.

VI. Agenda item 5: Other programme matters

A. Migration and development

56. The Committee recalled that CEB, at its first regular session of 2013, in April of that year, had endorsed a set of outcomes and recommendations prepared by the Committee, under the leadership of the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which was shared with Member States in advance of the second meeting of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held on 3 and 4 October 2013. A joint CEB publication entitled "International migration and development: contributions and recommendations of the international system", was also launched on the margins of that event.

57. At its twenty-sixth session in October 2013, the Committee had taken stock of the outcome of the second meeting of the High-level Dialogue and had noted that the proposed recommendations and outcomes endorsed by CEB had been echoed by Governments and civil society. The Committee had concluded that it and CEB should keep the implementation of the outcome of the High-level Dialogue under review. To that end, CEB, acting on a proposal by the Committee, had requested the Global Migration Group to formulate a synthesis of follow-up action taken by the United Nations system on the implementation of the outcome. The Committee had been invited to review the synthesis and to provide its views for consideration by CEB at its first regular session of 2014.

58. In presenting the synthesis report, the Director of the New York Office of ILO, Jane Stewart, representing the Chair of the Global Migration Group, noted that the consensus document had benefited from contributions submitted by the entities of the Group, non-Group Committee members, the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. It provided an overview of follow-up actions taken by the United Nations system within the structure of the eight-point agenda for action proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on international migration and development (A/68/190). It also proposed a set of strategic recommendations for consideration by the Committee, which included actions to mainstream migration and the human rights of migrants into the activities of the United Nations system and to include migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda. The Director also explained that the area-specific recommendations annexed to the synthesis report were intended to guide continuing work of the Group and had been provided for the information of the Committee only, without expectation of endorsement.

59. In the subsequent discussion, Committee members expressed appreciation to ILO for its leadership of the Global Migration Group and welcomed the synthesis report. The implementation of the outcome of the second meeting of the High-level Dialogue was considered an important activity of the United Nations system, and the Group was seen as an essential mechanism in that regard. Some members pointed to individual initiatives to advance the integration of migration into their work programmes, including with respect to remittances, migrants at sea, and women and girl migrants. It was noted, however, that the issue of political and economic migration needed to be more systematically addressed by the United Nations system.

60. Committee members commended the spirit of the two strategic recommendations included in the synthesis report and took note of the examples for the mainstreaming of migration and the human rights of migrants into the activities of the United Nations system. Some members expressed reservations concerning the formulation of some of the recommendations. In that context, ongoing efforts by the Economic and Social Council in addressing migration issues, and the role of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in guiding the work of the United Nations system at the country level, were pointed out. The Committee agreed that migration and the special needs of migrants were priority issues that warranted emphasis in the post-2015 development agenda, but cautioned against the advocacy by CEB of a particular sustainable development goal on migration, noting the ongoing intergovernmental deliberations.

61. With the understanding that its views would be conveyed to the Global Migration Group for reflection in a revised synthesis report on action taken by the United Nations system in follow-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (see annex VI), the Committee recommended the report to CEB for its consideration at the Board's first regular session of 2014.

B. Social and environmental sustainability

62. In introducing the item, the Director of the secretariat of the Environment Management Group, Elliot Harris, recalled that the Group had commenced work on social and environmental sustainability through a consultative process in 2009, resulting in its endorsement in 2011 of the Framework for Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System. The Framework was aimed at providing guidance on the environmental and social sustainability of activities carried out by United Nations system organizations in the areas of policy/strategy, programmes/projects and management. The Committee, at its twenty-third session, in March 2012, had taken note of the Framework and invited the Chairs of the three pillars of CEB (the High-level Committee on Management, the High-level Committee on Programmes and UNDG) and the Chair of the Group to consider how the Framework could be taken further into account by the United Nations system. Subsequently, the Group's consultative process prepared an options paper on system-wide issues in the follow-up of the Framework and a guide for the implementation of the Framework. The purpose of the paper was to advance the system-wide uptake of the Framework by proposing options in the areas of reporting, the contributions of inter-agency mechanisms, identifying a potential host for the new hub and enhancing coherence through broader sustainability measures in the United Nations system.

63. Committee members had been invited to provide their views in writing on the suggested options, as well as on the implications of the implementation of the Framework by the United Nations system. A total of 16 replies from United Nations system organizations had been received by the CEB secretariat; the summary was before the Committee. Replies varied widely in terms of substance as well as level of detail, and organizations expressed a range of often divergent views on the options presented. In particular, Committee members sought clarity regarding both the goals and the legal and financial implications of the Framework. Respondents were of the view that further consultations were required on the Framework prior to its application throughout the United Nations system. The ongoing intergovernmental process towards a post-2015 development agenda and its

relevance for guiding actions by the United Nations system to integrate sustainable development into its work were also noted in that context.

64. Turning to next steps, the Director proposed that the technical work carried out by the Environment Management Group through the consultative process continue, taking into account the Committee's comments on the options paper. Consideration should be given to a pilot implementation of the Framework by selected agencies. In addition, enabling conditions for the acceptance of the Framework by the United Nations system needed to be identified.

65. In the ensuing discussion, Committee members thanked the Director of the secretariat of the Environment Management Group for his presentation and noted the importance of sustainability in the work of the United Nations system and its linkages with the fitness-for-purpose discussion in the context of the Committee's deliberations on the post-2015 development agenda. Ownership of the Framework needed to be broadened beyond the Group. Some United Nations system organizations had already advanced work on social and environmental sustainability within their own organizations, and lessons learned from those efforts could prove useful for advancing work on the Framework. Committee members suggested that the Group continue to deepen the Framework, in particular in the area of its legal and financial implications. It was also proposed that the Framework be broadened to include the economic dimension of sustainability.

66. The Committee invited the Environment Management Group to consider its comments and views on the options paper as part of the Group's ongoing consultative process and to revert to the Committee at a future session.

C. Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

67. The Committee recalled that, at its twenty-sixth session, it had expressed appreciation for the leadership role of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States as the entity tasked with the mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system, through the Inter-Agency Consultative Group, for the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action. At that time, the Committee endorsed a set of recommendations related to collaborative work to ensure the successful mainstreaming of the Programme of Action into the work programmes of organizations of the United Nations system. Among other measures, the Office had proposed the development of a set of guidelines and best practices as a toolkit for mainstreaming activities for consideration by the Committee.

68. At its current session, the Committee had before it a progress report by the Office in which it was proposed that, given the importance of involving the Inter-Agency Consultative Group, which was scheduled to convene in July 2014, in the preparation of the toolkit, a new time frame for the completion of that activity should be considered. The Office also reported that it would suggest the inclusion of a number of thematic issues under consideration by the Committee in the agenda for the next meeting of the Group, with a view to promoting convergence between the entities. Furthermore, given that the Committee would have on its agenda the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action immediately before its midterm review, which was foreseen for early 2016, a more appropriate time for its consideration of the mainstreaming toolkit would be its second regular session of 2015.

69. The Committee took note of the progress report. As recommended by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the Committee decided to table a substantive discussion on this issue at its thirtieth session immediately prior to the midterm review of the Istanbul Programme of Action, which was expected to be held in early 2016. The Office would, in the interim, continue to submit progress reports to the Committee.

D. Reports of UN-Water, UN-Energy and UN-Oceans

70. At its twenty-sixth session, in October 2013, the Committee had been briefed by UN-Water, UN-Energy and UN-Oceans on the scope of their activities and future plans that had a bearing on system-wide policy coherence, including in the context of the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda. Written updates had been submitted to the Committee for its information.

71. The Committee took note of progress in the work of UN-Water, UN-Energy and UN-Oceans.

E. A world of 7 billion

72. The Committee recalled that CEB, at its second regular session of 2011, had requested the Committee to carry out detailed work on population dynamics. At its twenty-fourth session, the Committee had established a time-bound inter-agency working group, co-chaired by UNFPA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and tasked it with developing a set of tools and best practices that might help agencies build their capacity to integrate population dynamics into their work at all levels, for consideration by the Committee at its twenty-sixth session.

73. The inter-agency group had submitted a note on the progress achieved to date, including in particular United Nations system-wide aspects of population dynamics for sustainable development in the context of ongoing policy processes, the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the post-2015 development agenda.

74. The Committee took note of the outcome of the work of the inter-agency working group and thanked UNFPA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for their leadership.

VII. Agenda item 6: Any other business

75. Regarding the dates of the twenty-eighth session of the Committee, the CEB secretariat will revert to the Committee upon further consultation, bearing in mind the proposal to hold the fall session of the High-level Committee on Programmes and the High-level Committee on Management jointly at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

76. In closing, the Chair expressed his deep gratitude and that of the entire Committee to ECLAC for hosting the current session of the Committee at its headquarters, in Santiago.

77. The Committee thanked the Secretary of the Committee, Phyllis Lee, who would be retiring at the end of July, for her dedicated service and wished her luck and success in her future endeavours. Ms. Lee reminded the Committee that it had first articulated the notion of "One United Nations" in 2005, and likewise wished it continued success in its important work.

Annex I

Seminar with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions on the theme "The contributions of interregional policy cooperation to United Nations system coherence and policy development"

(Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, 18 March 2014)

Summary

1. The first joint seminar of the High-level Committee on Programmes and the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions was held on 18 March 2014 in conjunction with the Committee's twenty-seventh session. In setting the scene for the discussion, the Chair of the Committee noted that the regional commissions had attained greater visibility and a stronger voice in the United Nations system in recent years. Indeed, the seminar had been convened in recognition of the emerging policy discourse and forward-looking agenda that were being articulated in the regions. The United Nations system had a particular role to play in leveraging and contributing to this important trend. The Chair warmly welcomed the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Interregional Policy Cooperation, Juan Somavia, and thanked him for facilitating the seminar.

2. The Special Adviser opened the seminar by pointing to three issues that, in his view, framed the discussion: (a) the challenge of bringing together two autonomous yet interrelated processes, comprising, on the one hand, the global quest for a new, universal sustainable development agenda and, on the other, decisions taken by national Governments or regions to overcome the ongoing economic and financial crisis; (b) the need for a policy architecture that would differ from the one that had led to the global financial crisis and would address enormous inequality; and (c) the absence of global policy leadership, resulting in unprecedented uncertainty and an extraordinary opportunity and challenge to the United Nations system to play a role in reducing that uncertainty by contributing to new global thinking and generating advocacy.

3. The objectives of the discussion, the Special Adviser explained, were to address how interregional policy coordination could contribute to the ongoing global policy processes and to identify new pathways and mechanisms for integrated policymaking in support of a new universal development agenda.

4. In her introductory remarks, the Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, Amina Mohammed, stressed the need for a development agenda that was responsive to the needs of people. She emphasized that many of the social, economic and environmental challenges that needed to be addressed by the post-2015 development agenda were shared by all countries and regions. This raised questions about the meaning and implications of a universal development agenda that needed to be applicable to a wide range of countries. The Special Adviser pointed to three dimensions of the discussion that would particularly benefit from a regional perspective: the issue of equality, the question of means of implementation, and the challenge of accountability. The latter would require a data revolution.

5. Speaking in her capacity as Coordinator of the regional commissions, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Bárcena, highlighted the tremendous opportunity brought about by the process of formulating a new development paradigm. By building on the normative agenda of the United Nations, the regions needed to be key players in the design of the future framework. The regional commissions had an important role to play in that context by bringing a regional dimension to discussions on certain macroissues, such as addressing inequality, and new ways of measuring progress in poverty reduction or financing for development; and by fostering an exchange of knowledge and experience among regions. The Executive Secretary stressed that a progressive agenda was emerging from the regions on such issues as integration, universality, equality and the data revolution. Bringing the experiences and views of the regions on these matters to the attention of the Committee and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) would be a valuable contribution to the global discourse.

6. In the subsequent discussion, the Committee thanked the presenters and stressed that the regional commissions, given their greater proximity to trends and challenges at the country level and the high level of credibility that they enjoyed with national decision makers, could help provide context and practical experiences to the United Nations system. The importance of the commissions also manifested itself in their role as incubators of social movement, which was particularly critical in the context of ensuring the broad consultation necessary on the post-2015 development agenda to ensure national ownership and responsiveness.

7. Committee members pointed to a number of areas in which regional experiences could inform global-level policy-setting. These included the regions' ability to foster progressive agendas and guide transformational change, thus adding new substance and innovative ideas to the development discourse. Another area in which the Committee felt that the regions had valuable experience to share was their ability to reconcile a diversity of interests and to articulate a development vision that reflected multiple realities. Bringing these consolidated regional perspectives, which already represented substantial analysis and a convergence of views, into the global discourse could help to inform intergovernmental negotiations. Likewise, the regional commissions' involvement in the facilitation of integrated approaches to assess problems and devise solutions across sectors and stakeholders, for example, through interministerial and multi-stakeholder dialogues, was considered an area from which the global level could benefit.

8. The regions, the Committee pointed out, also had a greater capacity to innovate. In that context, it was observed that in some instances, regional solutions to crises had been more successful than global or national efforts. These should be given more visibility.

9. Concerning the evolving relationship between the regions and the evolving process at the global level in the post-2015 context, the Committee saw an increasing role for the regional commissions in bringing the universal normative agenda from the global to the country level, particularly in countries in which United Nations country teams were absent. For example, it was considered very important to ensure that the universal human rights agenda was adhered to in all countries across all regions, avoiding a pick-and-choose approach on the part of national Governments. In turn, the global level had the responsibility to support the

regions and the respective Member States in implementing the post-2015 agenda. In that regard, it was cautioned that the United Nations system should not focus solely on the global agenda, but remain mindful of specific regional and national priorities.

10. The absence of an institutional mechanism to reflect regional voices in deliberations at United Nations Headquarters was identified as a challenge by some participants. Others stressed that the current institutional set-up held the potential for greater interaction and collaboration with the regional commissions, and that that potential should be used more effectively. From a practical perspective, the question of consolidating the physical locations of the regional offices of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes to achieve better cooperation and coordination was raised.

11. In closing, the Chair noted that the salient points of this dialogue would be brought to the attention of CEB. He urged the Committee to sharpen the regional dimension in its ongoing discourse on the post-2015 development agenda.

Annex II

Agenda

1. Post-2015 development agenda.
2. Climate change.
3. Small island developing States.
4. A new United Nations urban agenda.
5. Other programme matters:
   (a) Migration and development;
   (b) Social and environmental sustainability;
   (c) Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries;
   (d) Reports of UN-Water, UN-Energy and UN-Oceans;
   (e) A world of 7 billion.
6. Any other business:

   Dates and location of the twenty-eighth session of the High-level Committee on Programmes.

Seminar with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions on the theme "The contributions of interregional policy cooperation to United Nations system coherence and policy development".

Annex III

List of participants

Chair: Achim Steiner

Vice-Chair: Gunilla Olsson

Secretary: Phyllis Lee

United Nations	
Executive Office of the Secretary-General	Amina J. Mohammed Kim Won-soo, Secretary of CEB Paul Akiwumi
Department of Economic and Social Affairs	Thomas Gass Navid Hanif
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Craig Mokhiber
Regional commissions	Alicia Bárcena Amr Nour
International Labour Organization	Jane Stewart
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Sharon Brennen-Haylock
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Jorge Sequeira Ian Karlo Sanchez
World Health Organization	Hans Troedsson Ivana Milovanovic
World Bank Group	Dominique Bichara
International Monetary Fund	Axel Bertuch-Samuels
Universal Postal Union	Alassane Guiro
International Telecommunication Union	Gary Fowlie Sergio Scarabino
World Meteorological Organization	Elena Manaenkova
International Maritime Organization	Jesper Loldrup
World Intellectual Property Organization	Naresh Prasad Joseph Bradley
International Fund for Agricultural Development	Zach Bleicher

United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Sarwar Hobohm
World Tourism Organization	Marcio Favilla Lucca de Paula Eugenio Yuni
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	Guillermo Vailes
United Nations Development Programme	Janil Greenaway
United Nations Environment Programme	Elliott Harris Margarita Astralaga Maaike Jansen Claudia tenHave
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Udo Janz
United Nations Children's Fund	Mandeep O'Brien
United Nations Population Fund	Mabingue Ngom Kanako Mabuchi
World Food Programme	Joyce Luma
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Gillian Murray
United Nations Human Settlements Programme	Naison Mutizwa-Mangiza Yamina Djacta
UN-Women	Moez Doraid
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	Miriam Maluwa
United Nations Office for Project Services	Maria Noel Vaezas

* * *

High-level Committee on Management	Jan Beagle (Vice-Chair)
CEB secretariat	Simona Petrova Xenia von Lilien Cheryl Stafford Catherine Zanev

* * *

Seminar with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Alicia Bárcena
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Shamshad Akhtar
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	Rima Khalaf
Economic Commission for Africa	Carlos Lopes
Economic Commission for Europe	Sven Alkalaj
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Interregional Policy Coordination	Juan Somavia

Annex IV

Working Group on Climate Change work programme for the biennium 2014-2015

I. Background

1. Several major interrelated policy processes on climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development are expected to culminate in agreements in 2015. These include a legally binding climate treaty under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and a universally agreed global development agenda, reflected in sustainable development goals.

2. A key challenge for Member States over the next two years is to reach agreements that reconcile two interrelated objectives: to advance development in a way that decouples growth from emissions and makes societies more resilient, and to take the bold climate actions needed to safeguard for future generations a living planet that allows for dignity and prosperity for all.

3. Concerted and ambitious action at all levels is needed to achieve these objectives. The science is unequivocal that current consumption and production patterns will result in levels of global warming that would undermine all development efforts. Still, addressing climate change continues to rank low among the priorities of citizens and decision makers, and is often seen as incompatible with their development aspirations.

4. The years 2014 and 2015 will be critical for overcoming any perceived dichotomy between climate action and development. The United Nations system has a crucial role to play in supporting Member States in their efforts to achieve an ambitious climate agreement and a "climate-smart" sustainable development agenda, and in building confidence that both of those are doable and desirable.

5. The High-level Committee on Programmes Working Group on Climate Change, under the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), provides a unique platform for bringing together a decentralized, diverse United Nations system to speak with one voice and fashion an important joint contribution to the climate and development agenda. The present document outlines the work programme of the Working Group for the biennium 2014-2015 and suggests a way forward beyond 2015.

II. Objectives of the Group and the 2014-2015 work programme

6. Throughout 2014 and 2015, a number of intergovernmental meetings will be held to build support for global climate and sustainable development agreements in 2015. In relation to the climate agenda, key 2014 events will include the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Bonn, Germany, in June 2014; the Secretary-General's Climate Summit to be held in New York on 23 September 2014; and the twentieth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Lima in December 2014. Intergovernmental consultations on a post-2015 development agenda have already

commenced and are expected to accelerate during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly. In addition, there will be a number of other relevant processes and events that will provide a platform for highlighting climate-related issues in the context of sustainable development.[a]

7. All of these events will allow the Working Group to bring to bear the United Nations system's diverse operational, technical and normative support for climate action in a coherent and coordinated manner, demonstrate the system's ability to effectively support Member States at this critical moment, and help to ensure a convergence of the climate and sustainable development agendas.

8. Through this work programme, the Working Group seeks to effectively mobilize and communicate the collective climate-related knowledge and services offered by the United Nations system in order to achieve the ultimate objectives of generating momentum for an ambitious climate agreement and fostering sustained climate action on the ground.

III. Overview of the 2014-2015 work programme

9. During the biennium 2014-2015, the Working Group seeks to achieve the objectives of generating momentum for an ambitious climate agreement and fostering sustained climate action on the ground through the following activities:

(a) Strengthening joint communication to generate support for climate action (focusing on the need for an ambitious climate agreement and the development benefits of climate action; targeting Member States):

(i) Joint messages on climate change and sustainable development;

(ii) A joint publication for the Climate Summit and the twentieth Conference of the Parties;

(iii) Building broad support for a climate agreement;

(iv) Supporting the Climate Summit;

(b) Making the United Nations system's support for climate action more accessible:

(i) Streamlined United Nations presence at the Conference of the Parties;

(ii) List of United Nations system reports and publications shared through a central portal;

(iii) Directory of United Nations system services in support of climate action;

[a] These will include thematic and regional conferences such as the Fifth Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation, to be held in Bonn from 1 to 3 June 2014; the first global Conference on Health and Climate, to be held at World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva from 27 to 29 August 2014; the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014; several thematic conferences to be held as part of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 Operational Review; and the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Japan in 2015. This list is not exhaustive and could be completed by members of the Working Group and developed into a calendar of events.

(iv) Strengthened collaboration with the United Nations Development Group to support United Nations country teams;

(c) Informing the formulation of climate-sensitive sustainable development goals;

(d) Identifying strategic issues and priorities for system-wide action on climate change;

(e) Ensuring fitness for purpose;

(i) Drafting terms of reference for the Working Group;

(ii) Drafting a proposal for a United Nations system-wide climate change strategy;

(iii) Reviewing the CEB framework for action on climate change.

IV. Working Group on Climate Change work programme for the biennium 2014-2015

A. Strengthening joint communication to generate support for climate action

10. Political will for a global agreement on climate change is generated at the national level. Countries and communities have to translate global agreements into climate action on the ground. To that end, Governments, citizens and business need to understand the socioeconomic value of climate action, as well as the risk and cost of inaction, i.e., that national, personal or corporate interests cannot be successfully pursued if climate change is not addressed. While many inspiring examples of climate action exist throughout the world, more attention needs to be given to climate change at the country level.

11. Strengthening the United Nations system's ability, including at the country level, to build confidence in Member States that climate action and socioeconomic interests can indeed be achieved in conjunction, and in fact be mutually supportive, is critical for creating the political will required for an ambitious climate agreement and a sustainable development agenda that supports climate action. The United Nations system also has an important role in helping Governments to understand and manage the opportunities and challenges related to climate action, as well as to understand the costs of action versus the costs of inaction.

12. To that end, the Working Group will develop joint communication products that effectively articulate the urgency of climate change — in terms of mitigation and adaptation — as well as the development co-benefits that stem from low-carbon and climate-resilient growth. This effort will support the objectives of encouraging an ambitious climate agreement in 2015 and helping to ensure that climate change is considered by all stakeholders and in all processes and decisions related to development, not as a competing issue, but as an integral part of all aspects of development. The development of a joint narrative will entail the interrelated deliverables set out below.

Joint messages on climate change and sustainable development

13. In collaboration with the Secretary-General's Climate Change Support Team and the United Nations Communications Group, the Working Group will draft strategic and visionary United Nations system-wide messages on climate change and sustainable development in early 2014. Those messages will be action- and solutions-oriented and structured around key changes that need to occur in different areas of development and/or consumption and production that matter to people and Governments (potentially structured around emerging sustainable development goals) in order to ensure that sustainable development objectives are both achievable and supportive of climate action. The messages will guide the individual communication strategies of the organizations of the United Nations system on climate change and related matters, in order to ensure system-wide coherence. They will also serve as the foundation of other deliverables.

A joint publication for the Secretary-General's Climate Summit and the twentieth Conference of the Parties

14. This publication, comprising about 20 pages, will be aligned with the Secretary-General's communication strategy, which seeks to focus the climate change narrative on solution-based messages and to highlight the economic dimension of climate change action. The publication will encourage an ambitious climate agreement and demonstrate that the actions needed to address climate change through such an agreement will also promote sustainable development. It will outline why certain changes need to occur (stressing the socioeconomic benefits of such changes); how they can occur (demonstrating solutions and success stories and describing the supportive role of the United Nations system, including joint initiatives); and what the cost of these actions are compared with the cost of inaction. It will be published in time for the Climate Summit in September 2014, and will also be distributed at the twentieth Conference of the Parties as well as other subsequent thematic or regional events. Information contained in this publication can also be shared through social media and various web-based platforms.

Building broad support for a climate agreement

15. In order to generate political will for a climate agreement among a broad range of stakeholders, including ministries of finance and key economic sectors, in addition to informing the respective constituencies of United Nations system organizations, the Working Group will explore the possibility of organizing technical briefings for Member States at major United Nations locations (including New York, Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna) and in the context of major "non-climate" thematic or regional events, focused on the socioeconomic benefits of climate action.

16. The Working Group will also explore with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) the possibility of strengthening the ability of United Nations country teams to provide assistance to Member States in addressing climate change and in increasing their ambition. This may include the development of "country briefs" ahead of the Summit and the twentieth Conference of the Parties, in close collaboration with UNDG and the Climate Change Support Team. The country briefs could highlight ongoing climate actions and their socioeconomic impacts;

identify further needs and opportunities for climate action; and estimate the costs of various options for closing the emission gap and the adaptation deficit — as well as their benefits, also in terms of development.

17. To support parties at the Conference of the Parties, joint issue briefs and technical briefings on issues of relevance to the negotiations may be organized under the leadership of one or more technical United Nations agencies and in consultation with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.[b]

Supporting the Secretary-General's Climate Summit

18. The activities of the Working Group in 2014 are aligned with the objectives and key messages of the Secretary-General's Climate Summit and are aimed at supporting Member States ahead of the Summit in making informed, ambitious commitments. The Working Group will continue exploring with the Climate Change Support Team how the United Nations system could further support the Summit.

B. Improving access to the United Nations system's climate-related knowledge and expertise

19. The Working Group will seek to make the broad range of the United Nations system's climate-related knowledge and services more accessible to the negotiating parties, Governments and United Nations staff, by coordinating and streamlining its support for the negotiations and its presence at the Conference of the Parties; by compiling all relevant United Nations system publications and resources as well as services offered by the system to countries and United Nations staff in one (virtual) space; and by engaging more closely with UNDG to identify the needs of United Nations country teams in terms of guidance materials.

Streamlining the United Nations presence at the Conference of the Parties

20. Since its establishment, the Working Group has been instrumental in coordinating the engagement of the United Nations system in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The coordination of United Nations system side events and the organization of a CEB high-level event will continue to be an important area of work for the Group during the biennium 2014-2015.

21. In addition, in 2004, to facilitate Parties' interaction with the United Nations system and to increase the system's visibility, the Working Group will explore, in consultation with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the possibility of a further streamlined United Nations presence at the Conference of the Parties through common visuals, co-located booths and a dedicated space for side events and briefings ("United Nations Day", "United Nations Pavilion").

[b] For example, the Working Group's climate knowledge subgroup could provide regular briefings to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice; likewise, the technology transfer subgroup could provide support for the work of the Technology Executive Committee.

Compiling a list of United Nations system publications on climate change

22. In order to more effectively share the climate-related knowledge and expertise of the United Nations system, the Working Group will compile, maintain and regularly update a list of relevant United Nations system reports and publications. This will be made available to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Member States and the United Nations system in digital form and online.

Producing a directory of United Nations system services in support of climate action

23. In 2015, the Working Group will compile a directory of United Nations system services in support of climate action, including programming tools and guidance, such as the UNDG guidance notes; analyses and assessments that can inform climate action; and information on United Nations system programmes and pilot projects that could be expanded to other countries (capitalizing also on the inputs provided by the United Nations system to the Climate Change Support Team's mapping exercise for the Climate Summit). The directory is intended to help Member States as well as United Nations staff at the country level to better understand opportunities and requirements related to the implementation of mechanisms established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including climate finance and technology transfer.

Strengthening collaboration with the United Nations Development Group on climate-related matters

24. The Working Group will explore with UNDG how the Group could inform and foster climate action at the country level, in support both of Member States and of United Nations staff and their local partners. This may include providing country-specific information (serving as a "knowledge broker"; being ready to provide technical guidance to inform programming at the country level) and exploring how climate change can be addressed most effectively as part of sustainable development in future United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, given that the United Nations system will strategically reposition itself in a number of countries by formulating new Frameworks over the next three to four years.[c]

C. Informing the formulation of "climate-sensitive" sustainable development goals[d]

25. To help inform the intergovernmental consultations on a post-2015 development agenda, the Working Group, under the guidance and leadership of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will look at the emerging sustainable development goals through a climate lens and formulate suggestions to factor climate change systematically into all relevant goals and targets. This exercise will be closely related to the joint messages on climate change and development and

[c] See http://www.undg.org/docs/13088/UNDAF%20ROLL%20List%20for%20Publishing%20 2013-2016%20as%20of%2019%20August%202013.pdf.

[d] A similar exercise has been undertaken by the United Nations Inter-Agency Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, which developed "common messages for risk-sensitive sustainable development goals".

could be carried out in two ways: analysing the potential climate impact of proposed sustainable development goals, and analysing how climate change could undermine proposed sustainable development goals. The Working Group may also consider using this paper to provide inputs to several reports of the Secretary-General on the post-2015 agenda.[c]

D. Identifying emerging issues that call for joint initiatives

26. One of the agreed areas of work of the Working Group has been the generation of ideas and the promotion of joint programming of inter-agency climate initiatives (as an "incubator of ideas"). Group members will continue this exchange and systematically share information on innovative programmatic approaches, best practices and lessons learned and further explore opportunities for broadening partnerships and collaboration.

27. In addition, the Working Group will aim for playing a greater role in using its collective knowledge to identify research and programming needs that could be addressed through joint United Nations initiatives or to identify issues that should be brought to the attention of the High-level Committee on Programmes and CEB. The Group could also serve as the "antenna" of the United Nations system by listening to the advice and concerns of Member States, experts and civil society in relation to climate change. Through closer engagement with UNDG, the Working Group would be in a better position to hear more about the needs of United Nations country teams for policy and programming guidance and to assist UNDG in providing such guidance as needed.

E. Ensuring fitness for purpose

Drafting terms of reference for the Working Group

28. In order to support the implementation of this work programme once it has been endorsed by the High-level Committee on Programmes, the Working Group will draft terms of reference that outline its mandate, objectives and working modalities, including the responsibilities of its Chair and its other members.

Drafting a proposal for a post-2015 United Nations system climate change strategy

29. In looking beyond the United Nations system's support for an ambitious climate agreement in 2015, it is clear that the pressure for climate action will significantly increase over the coming years. As the effects of climate change are felt worldwide, also having an impact on every United Nations system organization,

[c] This includes his synthesis report, which will bring together the full range of inputs to the discussions on a post-2015 development agenda, including the report of the Open Working Group and that of the expert committee on a financing strategy for sustainable development. The report provides an important opening for the United Nations system to plant its final recommendations on the post-2015 development agenda at a critical juncture. It is envisaged that the report will benefit from expertise across the United Nations system by drawing on dedicated coordination mechanisms. Another option is the Secretary-General's annual report, which will report on progress made in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and make recommendations for further steps to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.

there is a growing need for a common and shared strategy on collective United Nations system support for Member States in implementing climate action.

30. To initiate the discussion on this issue, the Working Group will draft a proposal for a longer-term strategy on strengthening collective, United Nations system-wide efforts to support Member States in the implementation of a climate agreement and a low-carbon and climate-resilient post-2015 development framework. The proposal would address such questions as: how the United Nations system will contribute to the implementation of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreements; how it will scale up its support for Member States with respect to climate action on the ground; what the role of the United Nations system is in ensuring that the sustainable development agenda as well as other processes effectively pave the way towards the implementation of the climate agreement in 2020; and whether the adoption of a universal development agenda may imply a changing role of the United Nations system vis-à-vis developed and middle-income countries in their efforts to address climate change. The Working Group will also review how the United Nations system addresses climate change at the institutional, management, policy and operational levels. In that regard, it will be important to ensure coherence between policies and programmes (High-level Committee on Programmes) and the operational/country level (UNDG) in the area of climate change.

Reviewing the CEB climate change action framework

31. In that context, the Working Group will also review and update, as appropriate, the CEB climate change action framework, developed in 2008. Six years on, while some focus areas of the framework may continue be relevant, others may benefit from a revision and new ones may have to be added. Furthermore, there have been considerable developments within current focus areas, often towards taking a more holistic approach, such as the shift towards a landscapes approach within the agriculture and forestry communities. It may also be pertinent to align the climate change framework with the emerging post-2015 agenda, for example, by addressing nexus areas such as climate and energy or different aspects of sustainable consumption and production.

Annex V

Joint statement of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination to the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States

1. We, members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, welcome the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, and are strongly committed to its success.

2. We recall that the unique and particular vulnerabilities of the small island developing States have been recognized as a special challenge for sustainable development since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. Member States reaffirmed their recognition of these special vulnerabilities in the Barbados Programme of Action in 1994, the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in 2005, the outcome documents of the Five-Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy, and, more recently, the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want".

3. We recognize that small island developing States and their populations are highly exposed to natural hazards and other frequent external shocks, are particularly vulnerable to extreme weather and climate events, lack economies of scale and, in many cases, suffer from geographic remoteness, all of which make their pursuit of sustainable development particularly challenging. We further recognize that their exposure to climate changes and other disaster risks and impacts poses a serious threat to their very existence. We recall that as early as in 1989, the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/206, had recognized the serious adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas. Between 20 and 30 per cent of the land area of the small island developing States is currently less than 5 metres above sea level, and 20 to 30 per cent of their populations live on this land area and suffer from considerable exposure to tsunamis and sea-level rise.

4. We recognize at the same time that there are also significant opportunities for small island developing States collectively to redeploy their own resources to meet present and future needs so as to form the basis for strong and resilient economies that are also socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable so as to meet their present and future needs. A broad-based and socially responsible business and industry sector and an active civil society, with the full engagement of all other major groups and stakeholders, including in particular children and youth, are instrumental for generating inclusive economic growth, eradicating poverty and protecting the environment.

5. We emphasize the need to create an enabling environment, including through appropriate legislation and public policies, for conducting environmentally sustainable and socially responsible business and for developing small and medium-sized enterprises. An integral part of this enabling environment is ensuring respect for all human rights.

6. We acknowledge that enhanced scientific understanding of the health and functioning of small island ecosystems, including the extensive marine ecosystems surrounding these islands, is urgently needed to ensure robust science-based policies

that enable the sustainable management of natural resources and adaptation to climate change, leading to sustainable ocean-based economic development.

7. We recognize that while many small island developing States have made marked progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, progress has been uneven. Meeting the Millennium Development Goals, especially in the area of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment, remain unfinished business in many small island developing States, especially for women and girls. To ensure that no one is left behind, we consider it vital for a post-2015 development agenda to take into account the particular needs of small island developing States, including their poorest and most vulnerable populations. A bold, ambitious and universal agenda that puts our world on a sustainable pathway is the only guarantee of a life of dignity and security for all, including all those living in small island developing States.

8. Any post-2015 sustainable development goals must, therefore, be universal in application, while allowing small island developing States to develop their own ambitious targets based on their specific contexts, which include the challenges of small island developing States that are graduating from the least developed country category and consequently no longer entitled to special treatment, as well as the challenges of middle-income small island developing States.

9. We welcome the decision to make the overarching theme of the Conference "The sustainable development of small island developing States through genuine and durable partnerships".

10. Partnerships in all forms and sizes that are practical and pragmatic continue to provide an important means through which small island developing States will achieve their sustainable development objectives. Multi-stakeholder partnerships will represent an important means to achieve a post-2015 development agenda.

11. A global partnership to help implement a post-2015 development agenda needs to be accompanied by a strong accountability mechanism, that includes the measuring of results, and clear targets related to a set of sustainable development goals, and promotes evidence-based analysis and policymaking, with transparency, good governance and inclusive decision-making at all levels.

12. A global partnership beyond 2015 also requires national and regional capacities for collecting, analysing and using vital social, economic and environmental data; examining the changing characteristics, vulnerabilities and needs of their populations; formulating policies based on evidence; and monitoring and evaluating progress towards development objectives and outcomes.

13. We are committed to a more coherent approach to working with small island developing States and to bolstering the support of the United Nations system for small island developing States within the framework of the post-2015 development agenda. This includes ensuring improved coordination and coherence among United Nations system entities, at the international, regional and national levels, in support of small island developing States by, for example, undertaking activities together and coordinating interaction with the various government ministries, so that our organizations coherently deliver our programmatic support in these States and ensure genuine national ownership of our programmes. In that regard, we remain committed to continuous United Nations system-wide engagement in small island

developing States, including through the mobilization of more resources for them, as a means of implementation for development.

14. We call on international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners outside the United Nations system similarly to continue and strengthen their support for and commit to working closely with small island developing States.

15. We look forward to joining small island developing States in implementing an agenda that aims to promote the well-being of current and future generations, eradicate poverty in all its forms, and ensure inclusive growth that targets inequality, while protecting and managing the natural and cultural resource base of our planet. Changes in the number, geographic distribution and age structure of people must inform the formulation of people-centred and environmentally sustainable development strategies, policies and programmes.

16. We stress the importance of strengthening national and regional capacities in the small island developing States to collect and integrate vital social, demographic, economic, environmental and geographic data in order to identify the vulnerability of populations, and formulate evidence-based strategies for resilience-building. We further stress the importance of collecting and using disaggregated data for monitoring inequalities and disparities.

17. We will endeavour to support small island developing States in building their resilience to climate change, including by strengthening endogenous capacities in sciences and technologies, facilitating access to data and information and the sharing of knowledge, including traditional knowledge, and supporting infrastructure and services to generate quality predictions, forecasts and warnings.

18. We urge all stakeholders to come to the Conference prepared to recognize and enhance their existing partnerships, as well as launch new ones, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States, in particular in areas related, but not limited, to: climate change and sustainable energy; oceans and seas; biodiversity conservation; forests; water and sanitation; agriculture, including fisheries and forestry; management of waste and chemicals, including hazardous wastes; economic and ecosystem vulnerability and resilience; sustainable consumption and production; sustainable tourism; trade promotion; debt management; facilitating access to international financial institutions; employment, decent work and sustainable livelihoods; sustainable settlements; population dynamics; rural and urban development; culture and development; science, technology and innovation, including technology transfer and national technological capacity-building; increased connectivity and greater access to information and communications technologies; disaster risk reduction, management and resilience, including with respect to disasters related to weather and climate; quality education; food security and nutrition; health and non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular ailments, diabetes and cancer, including their diagnosis and treatment; promoting sexual and reproductive health; enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment; and eliminating violence against women and children.

19. We, for our part, will respond to the plea of small island developing States for genuine and durable partnerships for sustainable development by updating our existing partnerships and launching new ones for small island developing States. In so doing, we will ensure that the quality rather than quantity of the partnerships

launched or renewed at the Conference is our paramount concern. Central to that endeavour will be partnerships that harness the cultural, innovative and genetic wealth held by small island developing States and bolster the potential and capacity for national and regional innovation and the development and deployment of technologies that address these critical areas.

20. We further urge all announced new partnerships to align their commitments and deliverables with the upcoming sustainable development goals. We recommend that the review and effective follow-up of the implementation of those partnerships take place during sessions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

21. We support current efforts to compile all existing and newly announced partnerships in an Internet-based small island developing States Partnerships Platform registry on the Conference website, to allow for better transparency, effective follow-up and monitoring of the impact of partnerships in small island developing States in their pursuit of sustainable development.

22. We commit to continuous United Nations system-wide engagement in the effective follow-up and monitoring, with regular and transparent reporting, of the partnerships for sustainable development in support of small island developing States launched and recognized at the Conference or through the Partnerships Platform.

Annex VI

Synthesis report on action taken by the United Nations system in follow-up to the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

Note by the Chair of the Global Migration Group, International Labour Organization

Summary

Pursuant to the request of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the present report reviews the follow-up by the United Nations system on the implementation of the outcomes of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and proposes suggestions that the High-level Committee on Programmes may wish to recommend for decision by CEB. The report has benefited from the rich contributions submitted by the agencies of the Global Migration Group, non-Group agencies represented on the Committee, the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, François Crépeau. Those contributions were consolidated by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in its capacity as Chair of the Global Migration Group, in collaboration with Group partners, for consideration by the Committee at its twenty-seventh session (17 and 18 March 2014).

The report frames the follow-up activities within the structure of the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action on migration and development and proposes key strategic recommendations. In addition, the report contains an appendix proposing broader, area-specific recommendations that will continue to guide the work of contributing Global Migration Group and non-Group agencies through their engagement with the wider international community. The following provides a brief summary of the key highlights and recommendations.

Key highlights

- To protect the human rights of all migrants, contributors to the present report are working to mainstream migrants into existing human rights mechanisms, institutions and instruments; providing assistance to Member States in extending protection measures to migrants, migrant workers and their families, with a particular focus on the human rights of children, youth and women; and developing programmes to provide direct support to migrants and to enhance the capacity of Governments (including through technical assistance to bring national legislation and practice into compliance with international norms), civil society and other stakeholders to promote and protect the human rights of migrants.

- To reduce the costs of labour migration, agencies are examining means of improving the accessibility and affordability of remittance transfers and other financial services; launching initiatives to limit the human and financial costs of recruitment; and identifying good practices to advocate to Governments, academic institutions, regulatory bodies and commercial sectors the need for

the recognition of qualifications and skills and for access to social protection, including the portability of social security benefits.

- To eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking, agencies are developing creative information technology solutions to track traffickers; raising awareness of the issue of trafficking through dialogue and partnerships with relevant stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels; providing direct assistance to victims of trafficking; providing technical assistance to Governments in bringing national legislation and practice into compliance with international norms; and working on the development of new standards to address regulatory and enforcement gaps.

- To address the plight of stranded migrants, guidelines and principles are being developed to complement the Migration Crisis Operational Framework of the International Organization for Migration, taking into account the experience of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with vulnerable non-refugee migrants seeking the protection provided by asylum systems; multi-stakeholder partnerships are being forged to better prepare for and respond to such situations; principles and guidelines are also being developed to assist States in implementing human-rights-based border governance measures; surveys are being launched in partnership with academic institutions; and direct assistance and protection, including gender-specific interventions, are being offered to stranded migrants.

- To improve the public perceptions of migrants, agencies have launched online consultations, educational programmes and campaigns to highlight the contributions of migrants and migrant workers to countries of origin, transit and destination.

- To mainstream migration into national development plans, contributors to the present report are building the capacity of policymakers to mainstream migration into development strategies; leading research initiatives to further explore the migration-development nexus; integrating migration and development into global policy processes; and identifying goals, targets and indicators relevant to migrants and migration in preparation for the development agenda succeeding the Millennium Development Goals.

- To strengthen the migration evidence base, contributors are investing in data collection and research initiatives, knowledge-sharing platforms, training activities, the development of indicators on the human rights of migrants, and capacity development programmes with respect to migration and its impacts on individuals, communities and societies.

- To enhance migration partnerships and cooperation, links are being forged among several stakeholders under the umbrella of the Global Migration Group, in the context of regional consultative processes on migration and other regional and global initiatives, including the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

Strategic recommendations

The Committee may wish to recommend the following for decision by CEB:

Recommendation 1: Mainstream migration and the human rights of migrants into the activities of the United Nations system

- CEB, through the High-level Committee on Programmes, could periodically take stock of the system-wide progress made in implementing the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (General Assembly resolution 68/4) and the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action on migration and development, contained in his report on international migration and development (A/68/190), and, in collaboration with all Global Migration Group agencies, promote follow-up in the policymaking and coordination structures of the United Nations system at all levels, such as the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, the regional coordination mechanisms and the United Nations country teams.

- In order to ensure the inclusion of migration and the human rights of migrants in United Nations coordination and assistance at the country level, CEB could:

  - Request UNDG to consider working with the Global Migration Group to develop a set of guidelines and tools to mainstream migration into United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

  - Invite the Global Migration Group to coordinate joint United Nations system advocacy and action to advance the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue in all countries, including developed countries, and to keep CEB abreast of those initiatives through the High-level Committee on Programmes.

- CEB could request the Global Migration Group to formulate a proposal on the convening of a regular multi-stakeholder dialogue on migration within the United Nations to discuss and monitor follow-up to the outcomes of the High-level Dialogue, with the participation of key stakeholders, such as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, human rights mechanisms, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Migration Group and civil society organizations, including workers' and employers' organizations, possibly during sessions of the Economic and Social Council (see A/67/736-E/2013/7).

Recommendation 2: Emphasize the importance of the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda

- CEB could explore a joint advocacy strategy on migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. Such a strategy should revolve around three elements:

  - Making the case for international migration to become part of a new global partnership for inclusive development, as well as part of other relevant goals;

- In the light of the cross-cutting nature of migration, proposing migration-related targets or indicators that are directly relevant to the achievement of other sustainable development goals;
- Addressing the labour and human rights and well-being of migrants by proposing ways to appropriately disaggregate indicators in all countries, bearing in mind the universality of the post-2015 agenda.

• CEB could ask the Global Migration Group to continue to develop and share joint messages and tools for advocacy, including targets and indicators related to relevant focus areas proposed by the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and to keep CEB abreast of those initiatives through the High-level Committee on Programmes. (In 2013, the Global Migration Group issued a joint position paper on integrating migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda).

I. Introduction

1. In 2013, 232 million people were international migrants, compared with 175 million in 2000 and 154 million in 1990.[a] In recent years, migration has become a global phenomenon, with more countries serving simultaneously as countries of origin, transit and destination for migrants. The growing size and complexity of international migration entails both development opportunities and challenges. The United Nations convened the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, on 3 and 4 October 2013, to reflect on ways in which migrants and migration can become an integral part of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

2. In his report on international migration and development (A/68/190), the Secretary-General presented an eight-point agenda for action to "make migration work" for the benefit of migrants and countries of origin and destination alike. He urged Member States, in collaboration with the United Nations system, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), civil society organizations and regional and international bodies, to reaffirm their commitment to: protecting the human rights of all migrants; reducing the costs of labour migration; eliminating migrant exploitation, including human trafficking; addressing the plight of stranded migrants; improving the public perception of migrants; integrating migration into the development agenda; strengthening the migration evidence base; and enhancing migration partnerships and cooperation.

3. The Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (General Assembly resolution 68/4) complemented the eight-point agenda for action. In the Declaration, the representatives of States and Governments recognized the cross-cutting nature of migration and the importance of building synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional and national levels in order to promote the development of origin, transit and destination countries. Furthermore, they stressed the importance of the collaboration among the members of the Global Migration Group, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, in the lead-up to the preparatory process that will establish the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

4. Pursuant to the request of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the present report reviews the follow-up by the United Nations system on the implementation of the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue and proposes suggestions that the High-level Committee on Programmes may wish to recommend for decision by CEB. The report has benefited from the rich contributions of Global Migration Group agencies, non-Group agencies represented on the Committee, the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration and the

[a] See "The number of international migrants worldwide reaches 232 million", in *Population Facts No. 2013/2* (United Nations, 2013).

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, François Crépeau.[b] Those contributions were consolidated by the International Labour Organization (ILO), in collaboration with the Global Migration Group, for consideration by the High-level Committee on Programmes at its twenty-seventh session (17 and 18 March 2014).

II. Moving forward on the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue

5. In his report on international migration and development, the Secretary-General proposed the agenda's eight points as concrete measures for follow-up to the High-level Dialogue. The present report frames the follow-up by the Global Migration Group and non-Group Committee agencies within the structure of the eight-point agenda for action.

A. Protect the human rights of all migrants

6. At the 2013 High-level Dialogue, Member States, the United Nations system, the Global Migration Group and civil society, including social partners, reaffirmed their strong commitment to the human rights of all migrants at all stages of the migration process, regardless of their immigration status, with particular emphasis on the rights of children, adolescents, youth and women. That commitment has taken the shape of attempts to mainstream the situation of migrants and migration into existing human rights mechanisms, institutions or instruments; assistance to Member States in extending protection measures to migrant workers and their families; and the development of programmes to provide direct support to migrants.

7. To work towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination against migrant children, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is supporting Member States in operationalizing the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the rights of all children in the context of international migration. UNICEF and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are producing guidelines for industrialized countries on best interests determination procedures for identifying durable solutions for unaccompanied migrant children. As a member of the campaign of the International Detention Coalition to end the detention of migrant children, UNICEF will support a State pledge against the detention of immigrant children to be launched at the

[b] Contributions were submitted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Labour Organization (ILO), IOM, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations University.

twenty-sixth regular session of the Human Rights Council, in June 2014. With the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNICEF is coordinating the production of a Global Migration Group report entitled "Adolescents, youth and migration". The report analyses the impact of international migration on adolescents and youth from a rights and gender perspective, examining opportunities and challenges posed by migration for youth in countries of origin, transit and destination. The report will include key messages and priorities for action for policymakers, civil society and relevant stakeholders, and will be released in the first quarter of 2014 under the International Labour Organization (ILO) chairmanship of the Group. Finally, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is preparing the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants, which will examine ways and means to promote and protect the rights of migrant children.

8. In the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue, representatives of States and Governments recognized the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence. UNICEF is responding to the call to protect migrant women by releasing a paper on violence, gender and migration, including a compilation of good practices identified by its country offices, to provide guidance to policymakers on formulating comprehensive responses to gender-based violence against migrant women. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) is also preparing the 2015 report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly in follow-up to Assembly resolution 56/131, on violence against women migrant workers.

9. To respond to the health needs of migrants, the World Health Organization (WHO) will continue promoting the inclusion of migrant health into national health strategies. WHO will also continue its efforts to promote universal social protection coverage and support the development of or strengthen social protection agreements between source and destination countries that include health-care benefits in line with World Health Assembly resolution 61.17, on the health of migrants.

10. To protect migrants at all stages of the migration process, agencies have focused initiatives on cross-border governance, protection at sea and the improvement of recruitment practices. OHCHR has developed a draft set of recommended principles and guidelines on human rights at international borders to assist States in translating the international human rights framework into practical border governance measures and ensuring that responses to cross-border phenomena do not violate human rights. UNHCR has embarked on a two-year initiative on protection at sea with the aim of promoting more effective cooperation and operational approaches to meet the protection needs of asylum seekers and refugees who take maritime routes. While global in scope, the initiative is most exemplified by the plight of refugees fleeing Afghanistan and the Syrian Arab Republic, among other countries, in search of protection across the Gulf of Aden, the Mediterranean and the Asia-Pacific region.[c] ILO, in collaboration with the Global Migration Group, social partners and other stakeholders, plans to launch a global "fair recruitment initiative" with the aims of addressing regulatory and enforcement gaps

[c] The seventh High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, to be held on 10 and 11 December 2014, will be dedicated to protection at sea.

and promoting standard-based recruitment practices by working closely with the recruitment industry and other stakeholders. In addition to enhancing knowledge about national and international recruitment practices, the initiative will strengthen laws, policies and enforcement mechanisms by embarking on a promotional campaign for the ratification of ILO Convention No. 181, concerning private employment agencies.

11. To promote and protect the rights of migrant workers in irregular situations, OHCHR will collaborate with ILO and UN-Women to launch a programme of work on the human rights of migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation, which will include the production of a publication and the development of a short, creative film to be launched in a global workshop in 2015. OHCHR will publish a study in 2014 on challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the economic, social and cultural rights of migrants in an irregular situation.

12. Finally, UNICEF and OHCHR, in their capacity as Co-Chairs of the Global Migration Group Working Group on Human Rights, Gender and Migration and as members of Thematic Working Group 7, on migrant rights and social aspects of migration, of the World Bank's Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, are co-leading with civil society the development of indicators on the human rights of migrants and their families, with a focus on the right to health, education and decent work. An expert meeting will be held in Geneva in April 2014, and a limited set of relevant indicators will be presented to Member States at a side event to the summit of the Global Forum on Migration and Development that will take place in Sweden in May 2014. A series of national consultations will subsequently be organized in order to assess the policy relevance of the selected indicators at the country level.

B. Reduce the costs of labour migration

13. In his report on international migration and development, the Secretary-General called upon Member States to reduce the costs of labour migration by reducing the cost of remittance transfers and recruitment fees and by enhancing the portability of social security and promoting the mutual recognition of diplomas, qualifications and skills.

14. The United Nations Commission on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) will hold an expert meeting on the impact of access to financial services in Geneva from 10 to 14 November 2014. The participants will examine means of improving the accessibility and affordability of remittance transfers and other financial services. The potential of mobile money will be given special consideration. As part of its fiftieth-anniversary celebration, in June 2014, UNCTAD will also hold a high-level event on reducing remittance costs, including by way of mobile money. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is also assessing ways to lower the costs of remittance transfers, as well as measures to reduce the social costs of labour migration, such as by mitigating possible negative health impacts on migrants and their families and facilitating safe, regular and orderly migration.

15. To limit recruitment costs, ILO is proposing to develop a database on the costs incurred by workers contracted for low-skilled labour in major migration corridors and occupations. This research will be carried out in the context of the Technical

Working Group on Low-Skilled Labour Migration of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development. In a similar vein, IOM and its partners are launching a public-private alliance on fair and ethical recruitment, to scale up efforts to reduce recruitment costs for migrant workers, including through the International Recruitment Integrity System. The Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration formed an international labour recruitment working group to speed collaborative action on regulating the recruitment industry. The working group is seeking engagement on the part of ILO and IOM as well as migrants and other civil society organizations to urge Governments to pursue bilateral agreements for labour recruitment that reduce the economic costs of migration.

16. With a view to generating greater investment and interest in the recognition of qualifications, UNESCO will work to define good practice strategies to advocate to Governments, academic institutions, regulatory bodies and commercial sectors the need for greater understanding of migration processes, qualifications recognition and global professional standards. An expert group meeting on quality assurance and the mutual recognition of qualifications will be convened, tentatively in mid-2014. At a time of growing worldwide mobility, the portability of credentials and educational quality assurance are key drivers of sustainable development, both nationally and internationally, as they help prevent the loss of education and professional experience in the course of migration.

17. The Committee on Migrant Workers will hold a day of general discussion on workplace exploitation and workplace protection on 7 April 2014.

C. Eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking

18. To eliminate all forms of exploitation against migrants, especially trafficking in persons and other forms of modern-day slavery, agencies are developing creative information technology (IT) solutions to track traffickers; raising awareness of the issue of trafficking through dialogue and partnerships with relevant stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels; providing direct assistance to victims of trafficking; and working on the development of new standards.

19. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is promoting the Voluntary Reporting Mechanism on Migrant Smuggling and Related Conduct. The Mechanism was developed by the Office for the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. It is an Internet-based, secure IT solution used by the authorities of 19 States and territories to collect, share and analyse information on migrant-smuggling, irregular migration and related conduct. Serving the purpose of creating strategic knowledge to inform evidence-based policy formulation at the national and regional levels, the Mechanism collects data on major routes used, fees paid, means of transport and methods used, profiles of irregular and smuggled migrants, and profiles of migrant smugglers.[d]

20. In collaboration with States, IOM, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, UNICEF, local non-governmental organizations and civil society, UNHCR is implementing a strategy to address trafficking, smuggling and abuse in the Horn of Africa and East Africa. This includes addressing the drivers of migration and ensuring the identification and protection of refugees and asylum seekers at risk.

[d] See http://www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/vrs-msrc.html.

21. IOM continues to provide direct assistance and protection to vulnerable migrants and to carry out capacity-building work on prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships with regard to the trafficking, smuggling and exploitation of migrants, including through its chairmanship of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in 2014. ILO, in its capacity as current Chair of the Global Migration Group, has reached out to the Inter-Agency Coordination Group to explore ways in which its work can be linked to the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continues to work with other agencies, such as through the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, to support countries in the fight against human trafficking, in the protection of trafficking victims and in addressing the causes and consequences of human trafficking by exploring the linkages with HIV and AIDS, and women's empowerment. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is promoting the protection of the human rights of all migrants and an end to exploitation especially of female migrants, who are most vulnerable to exploitation, including human trafficking, through partnerships and by promoting dialogue to bring greater visibility to the issue and share information about it. At the national level, more than 20 UNICEF country offices have reported working with national partners on anti-trafficking initiatives in 2014, through support for policy and legislative frameworks and the provision of services for victims of trafficking.

22. The ILO tripartite Meeting of Experts on Forced Labour and Trafficking for Labour Exploitation was held in Geneva from 11 to 15 February 2013 and concluded that there was an added value in the adoption of supplementary measures to address the significant implementation gaps remaining in order to effectively eradicate forced labour in all its forms. The 317th session of the ILO Governing Body selected the item on supplementing Convention No. 29 as an item for the 103rd session of the International Labour Conference in 2014.[e]

D. Address the plight of stranded migrants

23. A very important outcome of the 2013 High-level Dialogue was the formalization of the initiative of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development to protect migrants caught in crisis situations. The initiative, now managed by the United States of America and the Philippines, is aimed at complementing the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework by establishing principles and guidelines to define the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin and destination, neighbouring States, employers, international organizations and civil society for the purpose of protecting migrants affected by acute-onset crises such as civil conflicts, natural disasters and man-made disasters.[f] The initiative is also intended to build upon the experience of UNHCR in addressing the needs of vulnerable non-refugee migrants in need of the protection provided by asylum mechanisms.

24. Furthermore, as follow-up to the 2013 High-level Dialogue, the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration is collaborating with

[e] See TMELE/2013, TMELE/2013/7 and TMELE/2013/6.

[f] See http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/About-IOM/governing-bodies/en/council/103/Peter-Sutherland-UN-SRSG.pdf.

Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of International Migration and the Crisis Migration Project to initiate a survey of civil society organizations working with migrants in crisis and transit situations. The research will produce recommendations aimed at overcoming normative and implementation gaps in protecting migrants in crisis and transit situations. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development is supporting this initiative.

25. UNFPA is working with partners to ensure that the specific needs of women migrants are factored into the planning of all humanitarian assistance. For example, the Fund is moving quickly to protect the reproductive health of members of migrant communities in man-made and natural crises. The Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration is assisting migrants in crisis situations, especially victims of violence and trauma in transit.

E. Improve public perceptions of migrants

26. The Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue condemned acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, and the Secretary-General encouraged the forging of partnerships among the private sector, labour unions, the media, educational institutions and migrants themselves with a view to combating discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance against migrants and their families.

27. In the third quarter of 2013, UNICEF launched an online consultation on youth migration, equity, inequalities and the post-2015 development agenda to engage young people, policymakers, academics and other stakeholders in proposing concrete recommendations for making migration a positive experience. This initiative was supported by the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development and organized in partnership with civil society organizations and key United Nations partners (OHCHR, UNESCO and UN-Women). The discussion was wide-ranging and provided an opportunity for a variety of voices to share their views and insights on such issues as participation, empowerment and the perceptions of migrant youth.

28. UNHCR is working on campaigns and inter-agency collaborative activities to address xenophobia and racism against refugees within mixed migratory flows in Algeria, Greece, Italy, Malawi, Malaysia, Pakistan and South Africa.

29. While not focusing exclusively on migrants, UNESCO is promoting several initiatives to encourage tolerance among cultures based on the principle of the equal dignity of all human beings. For example, the programme on a culture of peace and non-violence develops formal and non-formal education initiatives with the aim of achieving intercultural skills such as empathy, spontaneous solidarity and hospitality. The organization's International Coalition of Cities against Racism initiative promotes the peaceful integration of migrants into the urban setting by addressing such issues as awareness-raising for inclusion and respect for cultural diversity at the municipal level. The Programme on the Management of Social Transformation encourages policy-oriented research and the promotion of dialogue between researchers and policymakers on the topic of the social inclusion, inter alia, of migrants. Finally, the Global Education Initiative, a five-year campaign launched in 2012 by the Secretary-General with UNESCO, continues to promote the fostering of global citizenship in the ethos of schools.

30. Several information campaigns have been launched to improve public perceptions of migrants. OHCHR and ILO have used audiovisual materials as part of a campaign to challenge myths and encourage positive public perceptions of migrants. On International Migrants Day in 2013, the two agencies launched a short series of cartoons encouraging such perceptions. Within the framework of a larger project on migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation in 2014, OHCHR will prepare a publication and additional audiovisual materials on the human rights of migrant domestic workers in such a situation. OHCHR is now preparing a publication that will explore the issue of xenophobia in the context of migration. In addition, the Global Migration Group has reached out to the Department of Public Information for possible media action (e.g., #IAmAMigrant). Building on earlier efforts around the globe, IOM is launching a global information campaign on the contributions of migrants, under the heading "It's amazing what migrants bring", to improve general perceptions of migrants and highlight the benefits that they bring to countries of origin and destination.[g]

F. Integrate migration into the development agenda

31. The United Nations urged Member States to mainstream migration into their development plans and called on the international community to define targets and indicators to monitor how the challenges of international migration are being addressed for consideration in the post-2015 discussions. Agencies are working towards this outcome by: building the capacity of policymakers to mainstream migration into development strategies; leading initiatives to explore the migration-development nexus; leading research initiatives; integrating migration and development into global policy processes; and identifying goals, targets and indicators in preparation for the development agenda succeeding the Millennium Development Goals.

Building the capacity of policymakers

32. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will support capacity-building to enable policymakers to design migration policies in North and Central Asia by, inter alia, analysing key issues in the North-Central Asia migration corridor, including highlighting the economic contributions of migrants in countries of origin and destination, matching the skills of migrants to needs in destination countries and promoting legal and policy frameworks for the effective protection of migrant workers.

33. The activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in follow-up to the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue are designed to focus on building member countries' capacities to mainstream migration into their development strategies. In that regard, ESCWA is planning to hold capacity-building workshops based on the Arabic translation of the Global Migration Group publication *Integrating Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners* in the first half of 2014.

34. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is currently undertaking a major activity to mainstream migration into national development plans and strategies.

[g] For more information, see http://www.migrantscontribute.com.

This activity is supported by the outcome statement of the regional expert meeting on international migration and development in Africa that was held at ECA, in Addis Ababa, on 3 and 4 July 2013, according to which progress on migration and development needs to be supported through a comprehensive and coherent approach that gives priority to mainstreaming migration into development transformations on the continent.

35. Over the next four years, IOM and UNDP, in collaboration with the Global Migration Group Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies,[b] will implement the second phase of the Global Joint Programme on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies in eight countries (Bangladesh, Ecuador, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Morocco, Serbia and Tunisia). The programme is aimed at: (a) enhancing national government capacities related to migration and development analysis, consensus-building, policy formulation and implementation, and institutional coherence; (b) foster inter-agency coherence and the capacity of IOM, UNDP and United Nations country teams to support Governments regarding migration and development priorities; and (c) facilitating advocacy and knowledge-sharing on the topic of migration mainstreaming in global policy debates. The programme will support Global Migration Group contributions to the Global Forum on Migration and Development on this topic, as well as the effort of the Group to develop a second edition of its *Handbook*.

36. UNDP is working in collaboration with IOM, the International Training Centre of ILO, UNHCR, UNFPA and UN-Women on the second phase of the European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative, a three-year global programme funded by the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation that is focused on the mainstreaming of migration into local development strategies. The Initiative has identified, in eight countries (Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Morocco, Nepal, the Philippines, Senegal and Tunisia), existing initiatives implemented by local authorities in partnership with civil society organizations that will be scaled up. The Initiative will develop tailor-made training materials and knowledge tools aimed at supporting local authorities in policy design and implementation and the securing of funding and technical assistance.

Research initiatives

37. The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs will issue technical publications on the relationship between migration and development. In the context of the Global Migration Group Task Force on Migration and Decent Work, IOM will draft a working paper on the implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Code of Practice on the International

[b] The working group was designed to facilitate enhanced inter-agency coordination at the country level by developing tools and resources to enhance the added value of the Global Migration Group *Handbook* on mainstreaming migration into development planning. It is chaired by UNDP and IOM. Broadly, it enhances the capacity of United Nations country teams to advise and support countries that wish to integrate migration into their national development strategies and ensures that the teams are aware of available expertise. For example, sector-specific guidance notes have been developed on mainstreaming for United Nations country teams. Likewise, a peer learning event was convened for countries undertaking migration mainstreaming.

Recruitment of Health Personnel. The Code discourages the active recruitment of health personnel from developing countries facing critical shortages of health workers and encourages the adoption of policies to promote circular migration and reintegration into the country of origin.

Contributing to global policy processes

38. The Population Division is the focal point for the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration for the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly. The report will showcase efforts to follow upon the 2013 High-level Dialogue and, in particular, on the need to integrate migration into the implementation framework for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

39. Three Global Migration Group workshops will be convened through the Group's Task Force on Capacity Development to actualize the recommendations of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. The workshops are targeted to Forum focal points. The outcome of the workshops will be the establishment of a support network for learning on migration and development in the post-2015 context for institutional partners, including national and regional training centres.

40. UNFPA is collaborating with United Nations agencies in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process to ensure that population dynamics, including migration, are addressed in the climate change discourse. It is now widely accepted that migration policies and measures to address displacement need to be part of adaptation strategies, as stated in the Cancun Adaptation Framework.[1]

Identifying goals, targets and indicators

41. The Global Migration Group Working Group on Data and Research and the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development Thematic Working Group on Data on Migration and Remittance Flows convened, in collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, a one-day retreat on migration indicators for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. The main objective of the retreat was to develop a set of indicators on international migration and development, that could be included in the implementation framework for the post-2015 development agenda.

42. The Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Migration is collaborating with a "push group" organized by the International Catholic Migration Commission to formulate, from a civil society perspective, goals, targets and indicators for inclusion in the post-2015 agenda. The Committee participates in the informal working group on migration convened under the aegis of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development, which includes representatives from States and Global Migration Group agencies.

G. Strengthen the migration evidence base

43. In support of sound and evidence-based policymaking, contributors have invested in data collection, knowledge-sharing, training and capacity development

[1] See FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1.

activities with respect to migration and its impacts on individuals, communities and societies. The effort includes censuses and administrative data sources as well as dedicated surveys for assessing the impacts of migration on social and economic development.

Data and research

44. The Global Migration Group Working Group on Data and Research and the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development Thematic Working Group on Data on Migration and Remittance Flows are developing a handbook on the measurement of international migration. The handbook will be subjected to an expert peer review meeting in May 2014.

45. The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs is responsible for providing the international community with up-to-date and objective information on population, migration and development. The Division estimates the global number of international migrants at regular intervals; monitors levels, trends and policies with respect to international migration; and analyses the relationship between international migration and development. Recent or forthcoming actions in this area include: (a) updating the United Nations Global Migration Database, a comprehensive collection of empirical data on international migrant stock by age, sex and country of birth or citizenship, as enumerated by population censuses, population registers and household surveys; (b) updating estimates of the number of international migrants by age, sex and origin; and (c) maintaining the common set of indicators for migration profiles (together with the Global Migration Group).

46. With the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNHCR collects and shares data on forced migration, including refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons. Data about stateless populations will soon also be available.

47. ESCAP will continue collecting and disseminating data on labour migration in cooperation with other members of the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking, comprising 15 United Nations system and affiliated entities and co-chaired by ESCAP and IOM. A regional report on international migration will be prepared, highlighting the key issues relating to international migration in the Asia-Pacific region. An expert group meeting will also be held, focusing on policies for the social protection of migrants in the Asia-Pacific region.

48. The Statistical Division of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) will continue to contribute towards the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue, in particular with respect to the need for reliable and valid statistical data on international migration. A number of expert group meetings, task forces and workshops have contributed to the achievement of those goals. In addition to an upcoming seminar by the Conference of European Statisticians on migration statistics, the 2014 work session on migration statistics will include several topics relevant to the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue, such as the measurement of the integration of migrants, gender and youth; return and circular migration; and other impacts of migration on countries of origin and destination. In relation to the post-2015 development agenda, ECE co-organized, with the European Free Trade Association and IOM, a capacity-building workshop in Almaty for the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia to increase their capacity to produce statistics related to migration, as well as their awareness of how

to develop migration-related indicators for the monitoring of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. In addition, ECE has a number of ongoing methodological task forces that work on topics relevant to the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue, including the measurement of the promotion of the integration of migrants into societies and the development of a common statistical definition of circular migration. Finally, ECE continues to support its Clearing House on Migration Statistics.

49. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics, together with its partners Eurostat and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), is gathering data on education and the mobility of international students. On the basis of these data, the Institute can track trends in terms of the numbers and the movements of tertiary students. Moreover, this dataset provides information about student migrants' countries of destination and origin, and the kind of tertiary programmes that they pursue outside their home countries. It also allows users to see how likely students are to pursue their tertiary education abroad (outbound mobility ratio) and which destination countries are attractive to mobile students (inbound mobility rate). Under another programme (with the same partners), the Institute tracks the mobility of doctoral degree holders. This dataset provides information about their countries of destination and some information about their countries of origin, while it covers both mobility engaged in for study reasons and that engaged in for other (professional) reasons. The Institute has also developed a mobility dispersion index, which reflects the extent to which mobile students from a given country are either concentrated in a few destination countries or scattered among a larger group of countries. In addition, the educational attainment of migrants is among the issues monitored under the umbrella of the Education for All Programme. On the basis of data collections maintained by OECD (e.g., see the *International Migration Outlook*) and by the World Bank (e.g., the emigration rate of tertiary educated population), the Institute can further examine the emerging patterns in the educational attainment of migrants.

50. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is collecting data for its *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014*, which will provide an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons. It is also producing a digest of trafficking-in-persons cases to analyse practical evidential issues and victim protection issues that have an impact on evidence in trafficking cases. Finally, the Office is expanding its human trafficking case law database[1] to enable judges, prosecutors, policymakers, media, researchers and other interested parties to take court decisions relating to these instruments into account when dealing with human trafficking cases, to promote the uniform interpretation and application of these instruments, to consult on practices in different jurisdictions and to broaden knowledge about human trafficking crimes.

51. A number of UNFPA country offices have initiated surveys and research studies and supported meetings to better understand the phenomenon of migration. Studies have included such topics as cross-border migration, youth migration, remittances, migrant rights, access to sexual and reproductive health services among migrant populations, the needs of women migrants, and communities of migrants living abroad. Some country offices have worked with Governments to sensitize policymakers to key population issues, including international migration.

[1] See www.unodc.org/cld.

52. The Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development Thematic Working Group on Demographic Changes and Migration, co-chaired by UNFPA and the Erste Group, is promoting enhanced understanding of the dynamics between demography, migration and socioeconomic development. An important component of this work is a review of existing migration assumptions in population projections in order to improve future projections, clarify the implications of possible alternative projection outcomes for policymaking and formulate policy recommendations.

53. IOM has launched a multi-year IOM-Gallup world migration survey programme, starting with an inaugural international migration barometer in 2014. IOM is also strengthening its focus on South-South migration and increasing efforts to obtain estimates on the number of migrant deaths in transit. IOM and partners are also starting a global research project on the linkages between environmental change and migration.

54. UNDP continues to support countries in the development of national human development reports on the topic of migration. Currently, a national human development report on migration is being produced in Kosovo. UNDP is co-chairing the working group on policy and institutional coherence under the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, together with the OECD Development Centre and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The working group has commissioned research to improve the conceptual framework and measurement indicators with respect to policy coherence for migration and development, and it is in the process of creating an interdisciplinary expert network on that topic.

55. WHO, in collaboration with experts and partners, will continue to identify data gaps and analyse trends in migrant health; take stock of indicators and models that have been used effectively; and formulate key indicators that are usable across countries. WHO will also continue to identify best practices regarding the health of migrants at the national, regional and subregional levels to promote South-South and triangular cooperation.

56. In collaboration with Member States, UNICEF country offices are, by means of survey tools and national censuses, gauging the impact of migration on children left behind. Field work has been carried out in the Republic of Moldova and Tunisia in collaboration with statistical offices and other national stakeholders.[b] In December 2013, UNICEF finalized a report on methodological considerations for survey research on children, adolescents and youth in the context of environmental change and migration. The main objective of the report was to assist policymakers and stakeholders in collecting and analysing data on vulnerable populations in the

[b] In the context of the initiative on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and led by IOM and UNDP, UNICEF Tunisia has collaborated with UNDP, IOM and UNFPA to support national authorities in the development of a national migration policy that enhances the positive impacts of migration on development, while minimizing its negative externalities. In that context, UNICEF is working in collaboration with IOM and UNFPA on a report on the impact of migration on families who have been left behind or have returned after migrating abroad, using both qualitative and quantitative survey analysis. UNICEF has provided technical assistance to the Tunisia National Institute of Statistics in order to generate new analysis from the last population census to measure the scale of migration affecting families and children and to describe the main characteristics of migrant and non-migrant households with children of up to 17 years of age.

context of environmentally induced migration, placing particular emphasis on the role of migration in promoting and/or hindering social and economic resilience. The report was prepared at the behest of, and with the support of, the Foresight programme of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This stream of work is expected to continue through a field validation phase. Climate change and resilience are key issues in the UNICEF strategic plan for the period 2014-2017.

57. Finally, ILO is reviewing bilateral and multilateral migration agreements to examine how low-skilled migrant workers and relevant States are faring under different labour migration schemes. This research will be carried out in the context of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development Technical Working Group on Low-Skilled Labour Migration and the Global Migration Group Task Force on Migration and Decent Work.

Knowledge-sharing, training and capacity development

58. Contributors to the present synthesis report are partnering with a variety of stakeholders to promote knowledge-sharing among, administer training to and build the capacity of those working in the field of migration.

59. The Global Migration Group Task Force on Capacity Development is responsible for compiling an online inventory of training activities and training tools offered by Group members. The Group's inventory of capacity development activities and tools will help centralize information on existing activities, tools and initiatives; promote synergies and work towards avoiding duplication; exchange information and results; establish a more comprehensive and systematic approach to the training needs of migration stakeholders; and identify opportunities for introducing new and innovative approaches to capacity development in the field of international migration and development. The inventory will be operational by May 2014. It may represent a first step towards the hosting of an integrated and interactive training platform to meet training demands (of Member States and other stakeholders) and to offer specialized training services. Such a platform could be modelled on the "UN CC:Learn" platform (http://www.unccclearn.org), administered by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) for 33 multilateral agencies in the field of climate change.

60. In their capacity as co-facilitators of the Global Migration Group Task Force on Capacity Development, the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, IOM and UNITAR are convening the second World Bank-funded Global Migration Group/Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development workshop on learning, entitled "Educating in the twenty-first century: perfecting learning on capacity development projects", on 14 March 2014. The Task Force seeks to promote good practices in the area of effective learning and knowledge management (including needs assessments and evaluations). Workshop participants will critically assess existing and in-development learning tools and capacity development activities, review reporting techniques and share insights into how to optimize their use of social media outlets and open sources of information in order to better meet their learning outcomes. This workshop builds on the first workshop, which was held in New York on 15 November 2013.

61. The ILO good practices database on labour migration is one of the key deliverables of the Global Migration Group Task Force on Migration and Decent

Work. This database offers access to worldwide good practices on labour migration being implemented by Governments, social partners and civil society in both countries of origin and countries of destination, as well as regional and international institutions. Good practices are identified on the basis of a specific set of criteria included in an evaluation matrix designed and tested by the International Migration Branch of ILO.[1]

62. Another initiative is the ILO Labour Migration Academy, an annual event that will be held in 2014 at the International Training Centre of ILO in Turin, Italy, from 16 to 27 June. The Academy targets policy planners and officials from various governmental institutions involved in labour migration, representatives of workers' and employers' organizations, staff of international development agencies and regional economic communities, staff of non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, and researchers and academics working on labour migration issues. Its objectives are to address key issues and policies regarding global and regional labour migration; to promote migration-development linkages and rights-based approaches to labour migration policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels; to recognize the special roles of employers' and workers' organizations in the development of labour migration policy and in resolving critical issues on labour migration; to analyse and use international labour standards and other mechanisms and procedures for protecting migrant workers' rights; and to deepen and master the "decent work" approach in the context of labour migration. The Academy is another deliverable of the Global Migration Group Task Force on Migration and Decent Work.

63. On 10 February 2014, the United Nations University (UNU) Migration Network launched its website, http://migration.unu.edu, providing comprehensive, searchable access to the University's extensive existing work on migration according to six focus areas: forced migration; migration and culture; migration and development; migration and environment; migration and health; and migration, governance and policy. The website provides access to a bank of more than 200 recent articles, books, policy briefs, reports and working papers and the contact information for more than 50 participating specialists. The Network is developing a research initiative to examine the use of new communications tools (such as Skype) in combating mental distress among migrants and supporting successful integration. A second project will consider the citizenship status of persons whose States, or large areas of whose States, have become uninhabitable. This includes the potential loss of small islands as a result of sea-level rise and desertification caused by changing weather conditions. Other projects of the Network include those looking at: female agency; statelessness; labour migration; the mental health of migrants; and the inclusion of migrants in public health systems. The next meeting of the Network will be held in April 2014.

64. In 2014, OHCHR will finalize a trainers' guide on migration and human rights aimed at building the capacity of government authorities, national human rights institutions, civil society actors and United Nations agencies to promote and protect the human rights of migrants.

[1] See http://www.ilo.org/dyn/migpractice/migmain.home.

H. Enhance migration partnerships and cooperation

65. Partnerships are being forged to complement governmental mechanisms in addressing the growing challenges of international migration. Examples of partnerships include activities carried out under the umbrella of the Global Migration Group; regional consultative processes and other regional initiatives; and partnerships involving civil society organizations.

Global Migration Group

66. The Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue and the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda call for further collaboration at the national, regional and global levels among United Nations agencies, the Global Migration Group, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, civil society and other intergovernmental bodies. Under the Group's workplan for 2014, ILO has set three objectives to increase cooperation among all relevant parties to the migration debate: (a) promoting closer coordination between the Group and Governments as well as greater opportunities for consultation and information-sharing; (b) strengthening collaboration among the Group, social partners (employers' and workers' organizations) and other stakeholders, including civil society, United Nations entities and international organizations; and (c) identifying opportunities for the cross-fertilization of experiences and good practices between the field and global levels of engagement and integrating these more fully into the Group's work.

67. With a view to the actualization of these objectives, discussions are under way with the proposal of the Chair of the Swedish Global Forum on Migration and Development for at least two regularized platforms for engagement. Additional avenues suggested for possible engagement of the Group with Member States, civil society organizations and other partners include the ILO Governing Body; the Human Rights Council; the upcoming deliberations on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, including the meetings of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals; the UNITAR post-2015 development agenda orientation course for diplomats, which will include migration; the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons; the second workshop on learning to be convened by the Global Migration Group Task Force on Capacity Development; the second phase of the Global Migration Group Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning, which has just been approved and pursues engagement with the Global Forum on Migration and Development; and a possible conference at Columbia University for pilot countries and partners to discuss best cases and good practices. The Global Migration Group is also launching an advocacy campaign with respect to the special summit of the African Union on the implementation of the Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on employment and poverty alleviation in Africa, to be held in September 2014.

Regional consultative processes on migration and other regional initiatives

68. Regional consultative processes on migration bring together representatives of States, international organizations and, in some cases, non-governmental organizations for informal and non-binding dialogue and information exchange on migration-related issues of common interest and concern.[m] IOM will continue to

[m] See http://www.iom.int/cms/rcp

foster and strengthen partnerships for regional and global consultative mechanisms on migration with all relevant actors in migration governance.

69. ESCWA is enhancing migration partnerships and cooperation to improve policy coherence and coordinated responses to international migration, both between countries of the region, by supporting the creation of a regional consultative process covering the Arab region (in partnership with the League of Arab States), and between international organizations, through the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region, which it co-chairs with the League of Arab States and IOM. ESCWA is currently finalizing a mapping report on the international migration initiatives of member agencies of the Working Group and preparing a regional report addressing international migration issues in the Arab region.

70. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) will continue to disseminate the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue in regional and subregional forums, such as the regional consultative processes on international migration, which include the South American Conference on Migration and the Regional Conference on Migration, and regional organizations such as the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Union of South American Nations. As agreed by countries of the region in the Montevideo Consensus at the first Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo from 12 to 15 August 2013, ECLAC will continue to prioritize the protection and promotion of migrants' human rights in all initiatives relating to cooperation on migration. In that context, emphasis will be placed on ensuring that international migration issues, including migration regularization policies, are fully incorporated into global, regional and national strategies with respect to the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. The human rights approach will continue to be cross-cutting in the training activities and technical assistance for the countries of the region in the field of international migration and development.

71. As part of the activities to follow up on the 2013 High-level Dialogue, UNICEF regional offices have established partnerships with key regional actors such as the African Union and ESCAP to address specific issues related to children in the context of migration. UNICEF will continue to explore new partnerships with civil society at the country, regional and global levels to promote child rights, in particular through the operationalization of the above-mentioned recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, an area in which numerous civil society organizations have been very vocal and proactive.

72. Given the challenges of natural-disaster-induced displacement, UNHCR and other agencies, including OHCHR, are supporting the Nansen Initiative on natural disasters and cross-border displacement, which is a State-run, bottom-up consultative process with multi-stakeholder involvement, aimed at devising effective approaches to addressing the challenges of disaster-induced cross-border displacement.

Partnering with civil society

73. In June 2014, the annual UNHCR consultations with non-governmental organizations will be dedicated to women's leadership and participation and will provide an opportunity to further engage with civil society on the protection of

asylum-seeker and refugee women within mixed migratory flows, in particular on the seas. UNHCR is actively collaborating with the United States of America and the Philippines on the formalization of the "Migrants in Countries in Crisis" initiative of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development.

74. A core group of civil society leaders from multiple sectors and regions will be explicitly charged with deepening contact and collaboration, in particular with Governments, on both process and substance in the area of migration and development. A migration and development network will be inaugurated at the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Sweden. Civil society hopes that that initiative will enhance collaboration among all stakeholders in achieving human-rights-based, people-centred migration and development outcomes for migrants and their families worldwide.

75. Through the Global Joint Programme on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies and the Joint Migration and Development Initiative, UNDP is working with partner agencies to strengthen government-civil society cooperation at the local and national levels, foster interministerial collaboration on migration and facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned across countries among both local and national governments.

III. Relevant meetings organized since the 2013 High-level Dialogue

76. In addition to the follow-up activities described above, the Global Migration Group and non-Group High-level Committee on Programmes contributors have organized a number of meetings since the 2013 High-level Dialogue to discuss possible approaches and strategies in moving forward on its outcomes:

(a) ILO hosted a tripartite technical meeting on labour migration from 4 to 8 November 2013 to assess the outcomes of the Dialogue and to consider possible areas for follow-up. The meeting adopted conclusions calling for Office-wide cooperation in the following areas: (i) labour migration in the context of debates on international migration and development in the post-2015 development framework; (ii) the effective protection of migrant workers, with reference to the particular vulnerabilities of low-skilled and middle-skilled workers; (iii) sound labour market assessment needs and skills recognition and certification; and (iv) international cooperation and social dialogue for well-governed national and international labour migration and regional mobility.[n] The meeting also included a high-level panel on 6 November 2013, which was focused on the outcomes of the Dialogue;

(b) The 103rd session of the IOM Council, held from 26 to 29 November 2013, included an overview of the implications of the Dialogue outcomes for IOM, emphasizing the importance of partnerships in developing joint follow-up action in the absence of a formal follow-up mechanism.[o] The session featured a high-level segment on the Global Migration Group, and another high-level segment on migration

[n] See ITMLM/2013/14.

[o] See "Overview of the United Nations Second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development: outcomes for global migration governance and implications for IOM" (IOM, 2013).

governance, during which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring that migration was given full consideration by the drafters of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, especially through the work of the informal working group;[p]

(c) On 20 and 21 February 2014, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs convened the 12th coordination meeting on international migration in New York. The meeting was focused on activities to follow up on and, where relevant, implement the Declaration as well as the eight-point agenda for action. In addition, participants considered how migration could be integrated into the implementation framework for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

(d) Additional high-level meetings were held with the intent of anchoring the fundamental principles of human rights, equality and sustainability in the global migration and development debates. For example, the high-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming, held on 4 March 2014 in the context of the twenty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council pursuant to its resolution 16/21, concerned the protection and promotion of the human rights of migrants.

IV. Strategic recommendations

77. The Committee may wish to recommend the following for decision by CEB:

Recommendation 1: Mainstream migration and the human rights of migrants into the activities of the United Nations system

- CEB, through the High-level Committee on Programmes, could periodically take stock of the system-wide progress made in implementing the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (General Assembly resolution 68/4) and the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action on migration and development, contained in his report on international migration and development (A/68/190), and, in collaboration with all Global Migration Group agencies, promote follow-up in the policymaking and coordination structures of the United Nations system at all levels, such as the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, the regional coordination mechanisms and the United Nations country teams.
- In order to ensure the inclusion of migration and the human rights of migrants in United Nations coordination and assistance at the country level, CEB could:
  - Request UNDG to consider working with the Global Migration Group to develop a set of guidelines and tools to mainstream migration into United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;
  - Invite the Global Migration Group to coordinate joint United Nations system advocacy and action to advance the outcomes of the 2013 High-level Dialogue in all countries, including developed countries, and to keep CEB abreast of those initiatives through the High-level Committee on Programmes.

[p] See http://www.iom.int/files/live/sites/iom/files/About-IOM/governing-bodies/en/council/103/Peter-Sutherland-UN-SRSG.pdf.

- CEB could request the Global Migration Group to formulate a proposal on the convening of a regular multi-stakeholder dialogue on migration within the United Nations to discuss and monitor follow-up to the outcomes of the High-level Dialogue, with the participation of key stakeholders, such as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, human rights mechanisms, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Migration Group, and civil society organizations, including workers' and employers' organizations, possibly during sessions of the Economic and Social Council (see A/67/736-E/2013/7).

Recommendation 2: Emphasize the importance of the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda

- CEB could explore a joint advocacy strategy on migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda. Such a strategy should revolve around three elements:
  - Making the case for international migration to become part of a new global partnership for inclusive development, as well as part of other relevant goals;
  - In the light of the cross-cutting nature of migration, proposing migration-related targets or indicators that are directly relevant to the achievement of other sustainable development goals;
  - Addressing the labour and human rights and well-being of migrants by proposing ways to appropriately disaggregate indicators in all countries, bearing in mind the universality of the post-2015 agenda.
- CEB could ask the Global Migration Group to continue to develop and share joint messages and tools for advocacy, including targets and indicators related to relevant focus areas proposed by the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and to keep CEB abreast of those initiatives through the High-level Committee on Programmes. (In 2013, the Global Migration Group issued a joint position paper on integrating migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.)

Appendix

Compilation of the area-specific recommendations submitted by the Global Migration Group and non-Group agencies represented on the High-level Committee on Programmes

The present appendix is a compilation of the area-specific recommendations submitted by the Global Migration Group, non-Group agencies represented on the High-level Committee on Programmes and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in follow-up to the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. The recommendations are structured in accordance with the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action.

1. Protect the human rights of all migrants

To respond to the health needs of migrants:

- Encourage inclusive, accountable and transparent cooperation between the Governments and the health sectors of countries of origin, transit and destination with a view to:
  - Developing and implementing migrant-sensitive health policies that incorporate a public health approach and equitable access to health services for migrants, regardless of their status and without discrimination or stigmatization;
  - Ensuring that migrant health services are culturally, linguistically and epidemiologically appropriate. This requires the development of the capacity of the health workforce to better understand and address the health issues associated with migration and the involvement of migrants in policy and programme planning and implementation;
  - Promoting coherence among the policies of different sectors that may affect migrants' ability to gain access to health services, as well as among countries involved in the migration process;
  - Mitigating the burden of out-of-pocket health spending and moving towards prepayment systems, both for the formal and the informal sector;
  - Developing and strengthening bilateral and multilateral social protection agreements between source and destination countries that include health-care benefits and their portability;
  - Continue working for the implementation of the 2010 World Health Organization Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel;
- Encourage States to ensure that all migrants, including migrants in an irregular situation, are able to gain access to adequate health care, and, where relevant, to remove legal and practical barriers to such access, including through the provision of firewalls between the work of health professionals and that of migration authorities;
- Employ the full potential of the world of work in promoting information and advocacy campaigns among migrant populations on the full range of health

issues facing migrants, particularly female migrants, including sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, female genital mutilation/cutting, malaria and tuberculosis;

To cater to the needs of refugees and asylum seekers:

- Encourage States to ensure the identification and protection of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons amid mixed migratory flows, in particular access to protection for those using maritime routes;
- Promote to States the abolishment of immigration detention, in particular in the case of children;
- Facilitate regional and national approaches towards pragmatic solutions in delivering refugee protection in mixed migratory flows and assist States in operationalizing protection-sensitive migration strategies;
- Ensure that special attention is paid to protection at sea with the aim of promoting more effective cooperation and operational approaches to meet the protection needs of asylum seekers and refugees who take maritime routes. Strategies linked to this initiative include dedicating resources to strengthen identification, treatment and access to protection, in close collaboration with affected States, United Nations and other partner agencies, civil society and communities. The High Commissioner's Dialogue in Protection Challenges, an annual protection event to be held on 10 and 11 December 2014, will be dedicated to protection at sea;

To promote and protect the human rights of migrants at all stages of the migration process:

- Encourage sending countries to provide pre-departure training based on the needs of receiving countries, including language and cultural immersion, financial literacy and computer and job skills;
- Promote decent and productive employment opportunities in all countries so that migration becomes an option, not a necessity;
- Promote skills development policies to increase the employability of workers, the competitiveness of enterprises and the inclusiveness of growth;
- Guarantee to all migrant workers, regardless of their status, age and sex, the right to exercise their human rights, including their fundamental rights at work;
- Extend the coverage and effectiveness of social security schemes on the basis of the ILO Conventions on social security and ILO recommendation No. 202, on social protection floors, and in their efforts to facilitate the portability of social security benefits;
- Promote labour protection for both women and men migrant workers, which comprises decent conditions of work, including wages, working time, participation and representation, and occupational safety and health;
- Encourage States to ratify ILO Convention No. 189, concerning decent work for domestic workers;

- Analyse modalities for cooperation among national authorities, including labour inspectorates, to identify practices in line with international labour standards for the protection of the rights of migrant workers, including those in an irregular situation or women migrant workers;
- Work through dedicated programmes and activities to protect vulnerable groups such as migrant workers and their families and workers in the informal economy, including women domestic workers;
- Promote access to justice for all migrants, including access to legal aid, support in participating in the criminal justice process and the dissemination of information on the rights of migrants and the right to redress;
- Encourage all States to ratify and implement all core international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as all relevant ILO Conventions;
- Guarantee to all migrants, regardless of their status, their human rights, including freedom from discrimination, the right to health, the right to work and fundamental rights at work, the right to education, the right to an adequate standard of living (housing, food, water and sanitation), the right to freedom from arbitrary detention, and protection from torture and cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment;
- Develop and implement legal and administrative measures, in conformity with human rights standards, that prevent and address xenophobia, and strengthen law enforcement and criminal justice responses to xenophobia;
- Encourage all States to end the immigration detention of children and to put in place alternatives to immigration detention;
- Promote the implementation of human-rights-based border governance measures, including through effective human rights training of border personnel.

2. Reduce the costs of labour migration

- Establish effective labour market information systems to prevent brain waste and de-skilling;
- Expand access to ensure the interoperability of remittance transfer services and promote financial inclusion. Competition at the national level for remittance receipts can play an important role in reducing costs;
- Improve existing remittance data, strengthening the links between remittances and the financial access of migrants and remittance recipients and enhancing the integrity of money transfer systems;
- Advocate the need to reduce remittance costs, in collaboration with the Group of 20. Reduce the cost of remittances, and avoid exclusivity contracts;
- Promote improved access to financial services for all migrants, including the most excluded groups, such as women;

- Develop guidance to promote recruitment practices that respect the principles enshrined in international labour standards, including ILO Convention No. 181, concerning private employment agencies, and identify, document and promote the exchange of good practices with regard to reducing the financial and human costs of migration;
- Strengthen policy coherence and coordination at the national level, as well as internationally among countries of migrant origin, transit and destination, through dialogue and integrated, holistic approaches to prevent employment agencies and brokers from charging workers recruitment fees in both origin and destination countries;
- Explore mechanisms for the mutual recognition of skills and the certification of credentials, with the active involvement of social partners;
- Encourage States to pursue access to development and human rights for migrants in the post-2015 development agenda as well as provide opportunities for labour mobility under available quotas and schemes to also benefit asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons.

3. Eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking

- Advocate the protection of the human rights of all migrants, especially women and girls, older persons, indigenous peoples, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex migrants and persons with disabilities, who are more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse;
- Support the awareness-raising and training of relevant local and national authorities, including law enforcement officials, labour inspectors, judiciary personnel and diplomatic staff, in countries of origin and destination to strengthen the technical capacity of all actors in the fight against trafficking and provide protection and support to the victims;
- In the light of the growing feminization of labour migration, enhance the ability of Member States to apply a gender lens to the advancement and implementation of labour migration policies;
- Promote the implementation of comprehensive responses to combat transnational organized crime groups deriving profit from migration at the expense of the lives and safety of migrants, focusing both on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and on the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air, aiming to prosecute traffickers and smugglers, preventing such crimes, protecting the victims of trafficking in persons and the rights of smuggled migrants, and fostering cooperation to those ends;
- Promote the implementation of several mobility agreements to protect migrants;
- Support States in addressing, through national and regional approaches, the challenges of trafficking and abuse, including the prosecution of perpetrators.

4. Address the plight of stranded migrants

- Work with humanitarian partners to increase awareness of the migration dimensions of humanitarian crises in the run-up to the World Humanitarian Summit to be held in 2016;
- Initiate a multi-stakeholder migrants-in-crisis group to provide guidance on best responses by the international community to migrants caught in crisis and transit situations, especially women and children on the move, while emphasizing the importance of human-rights-based and needs-based interventions and compiling good practices about rights-based border management;
- Consider the role that environmental factors may play in migration, in line with paragraph 25 of the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue (General Assembly resolution 68/4), especially as this is likely to become an increasingly acute issue in many regions in the coming years;
- Promote prevention and response to trafficking and the victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the context of emergency and post-crisis settings;
- Work alongside interested States on the "Migrants in Countries in Crisis" initiative of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development;
- Support States in addressing the challenges of natural-disaster-induced displacement, by supporting the Nansen Initiative on natural disasters and cross-border displacement, a State-run, bottom-up consultative process with multi-stakeholder involvement, aimed at devising effective approaches to address the challenges of disaster-induced cross-border displacement.

5. Improve public perceptions of migrants

- Promote the recognition of labour mobility as a factor of sustainable growth, rather than a negative consequence of the economic crisis, by raising awareness of the positive social and economic contributions of migrants, while combating xenophobic and discriminatory attitudes;
- Carry out analytical work to provide evidence regarding the contributions of migrants in sending and receiving communities;
- Work with stakeholders to address xenophobia, racism and discrimination against migrants as well as asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons moving in mixed migration flows.

6. Integrate migration into the development agenda

- Urge States to mainstream migration and human rights into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, as migration is a key factor for development that can have an impact on, inter alia, poverty reduction, health and education. As migrants are human beings with human rights, like anyone else, human rights should also be mainstreamed into the post-2015 sustainable development agenda;

- Promote the inclusion of the reduction of recruitment costs in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, by measuring recruitment costs in the largest corridors;

- Urge States to disaggregate data by age, sex, nationality and migration status, and monitor progress for natives and migrants separately. This is especially important in such areas as alleviating poverty; eliminating violence against girls and women; ending preventable infant and child mortality; decreasing maternal mortality; ensuring that every child receives a quality education; ensuring universal access to health services, including sexual and reproductive health; reducing the burden of disease from HIV/AIDS; ensuring food security and access to water and sanitation; and increasing the number of decent jobs and livelihoods;

- Urge States to incorporate measures of the social dimensions of migration, such as poverty, social exclusion, and discrimination and xenophobia, in addition to protection issues. This should be done by identifying a small, strategic set of specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound indicators on international migration and development that are globally applicable, yet possible to generate nationally:

  - Urge States to support the inclusion of an indicator on labour migration in the post-2015 development agenda. A possible target is "Enhancing equal opportunity and treatment for migrants and employment". Possible indicators include, inter alia, social security coverage, skills recognition, wages/working conditions and rights-based indicators;

  - Urge States to include migrant health indicators in the post-2015 development agenda framework in order to monitor migrant health and ensure that it is in line with World Health Assembly resolution 61.17, on the health of migrants, endorsed by the 194 States members of the World Health Organization. The latter is consistent with ILO recommendation No. 202, on social protection floors, which states that members should establish and maintain national social protection floors comprising basic social security guarantees to ensure that all members of a society enjoy at least a basic level of social security throughout their lives. Accordingly, migrants and their families should have access to these basic social security guarantees in the State where they reside, as well as in their home country;

  - Recommend that the post-2015 United Nations development agenda incorporate equality as a stand-alone goal, that migrant sensitive targets be developed under relevant goal areas (e.g., health, education, employment, poverty alleviation, social equality and gender equality) and that there be systematic disaggregation of indicators by migrant status (i.e., nationality and migration status) under relevant goal areas;

- Support initiatives to leverage remittances and savings from the diaspora for development, such as a diaspora bond.

7. Strengthen the migration evidence base

- Promote a rights-based approach to migration while taking into account labour market needs by strengthening data collection, research and capacity development to deal with the internationalization of labour markets for the

benefit of all concerned. This can be achieved by building Governments' capacity to conduct, in consultation with social partners, labour market analysis and needs assessment in relation to labour migration policy and to develop labour market information systems that can subsequently be used to plan and improve education, vocational training and lifelong learning to ensure skills for employability;

- Promote the collection of data on the human rights situations of migrants, disaggregated on the basis of legal status, while ensuring the right to privacy and in compliance with international standards on data protection;
- Support the collection, analysis and dissemination of timely age- and sex-disaggregated data and comparative research on the flows and characteristics of migrants as well as the needs of sending and receiving countries;
- Encourage assessments of the impacts of migration policies and programmes on development;
- Promote the harmonization of statistical methods and concepts on international migration and the exchange of knowledge on labour migration among countries, including the establishment of networks for information exchange on international migration and employment;
- Invest in work on issues that are likely to grow in importance in the coming decades, such as child, adolescent and youth migration, by promoting research on the needs and challenges of migrating youth;
- Urge States to promote security, justice and the rule of law to ensure safe, secure and humane migration as a favourable condition for the attainment of development;
- Promote the collection of data on the negative impacts of transnational organized crime, in particular trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, on migration and development;
- Assist countries in improving the collection of data on migration and remittance flows;
- Develop methodologies and concrete indicators to measure recruitment costs, policy coherence and access to health, education and jobs;
- Produce an annual or biannual "state of migration" report that brings together migration-related data from Global Migration Group agencies and perhaps the wider United Nations system as a useful output.

8. Enhance migration partnerships and cooperation

- Mainstream migration and the human rights of migrants into the activities of the United Nations system;
- Advocate the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.